

Topic: DSE Eye Care Vouchers

For additional information regarding the scheme please contact the WeST HR Team using the above details.

What are the Eye Care Vouchers?

A DSE (Display Screen Equipment) or VDU (Visual Display Unit) Eye Care Voucher, is a redeemable coupon, providing a free standard eye test for staff, as well as discounted prices on some ranges of glasses. These vouchers are provided to staff who work with DSE on a daily basis, and who could face discomfort due to the use of such technology. The Health and Safety (Display Screen Equipment) Regulations define a DSE User as anyone who uses screens daily, for continuous periods of an hour or more. This includes many roles within the Trust and, in our aim to be an employer of choice, we are encouraging staff to take up this benefit.

Why is it important to test your eyes as a DSE user?

To avoid unnecessary eye strain and discomfort, staff identified as DSE users are entitled to an eyesight test for DSE use every two years by a qualified optician and a contribution of cost towards corrective glasses. This is why we offer Eye Care vouchers.

Who provides the Eye Care vouchers and eye tests?

The Trust can provide vouchers for Specsavers.

How do I request a voucher?

To begin, you should book your eye test appointment at your nearest Specsavers Opticians.

Using the link or QR code below, complete our Microsoft Form entitled "Eye Care Voucher Request" and ensure all categories are entered. Once you have submitted your response, the HR Team will be notified and will begin preparing your voucher. Please ensure you enter the correct email address for your voucher to be sent to.

Eye Care Request Form Link: <https://forms.office.com/r/sMF54BKkd2>



The vouchers have an end date, so please make sure you book your appointment before completing the form, as you will be asked for your appointment date. Please also allow 5 school days between submitting your request and the appointment you book. This will help us prioritise.

What does the voucher consist of?

The benefits provided by Specsavers include:

- Free standard eye test **up to the value of £25**
- £49 standard single-vision glasses, or a contribution towards those of a higher value – **only when the glasses are specifically for VDU/DSE use**
- £20 Premium Club Discount **when purchasing from the £99 range or above, regardless of if those frames are for regular prescription, or VDU/DSE.**
- 2 for 1 **when purchasing a qualifying frame, regardless of if those frames are for regular prescription, or VDU/DSE.**

How do I redeem the voucher?

Your Eye Care Voucher will have been emailed to your work email address. Please ensure this is printed before your appointment - some branches may accept the digital voucher, but we would advise that you print your voucher as branches have been known to request them in paper form. Please present this on the day to a member of optician staff.

Are all employees eligible for this scheme?

All employees that meet the DSE threshold within the workplace are eligible for this scheme. This captures all staff who use Display Screen Equipment for continuous periods of an hour or more per day. It is in our best interest to make sure each staff member is comfortable at work, and thus we encourage those eligible to make use of this resource.

I have a receipt from a previous eye test, can I be reimbursed?

Unfortunately, we are unable to reimburse you for previous eye tests from any provider, despite the presence of a receipt. Using the Eye Care voucher also ensures the optician takes DSE use into account in making their assessment.

Can I exchange my voucher for cash?

Unfortunately we are unable to reimburse vouchers. Vouchers have no cash value.

How often can I request a voucher?

As per the Trust Health and Safety Policy, you are entitled to an eye test every 2 years. The expectation is that a member of staff will be provided with one Eye Care Voucher every 2 years. In the event that the staff member would like to access more frequent eye tests, this will be at their personal discretion and cost.

How long are the vouchers valid for?

Each voucher will have a specified expiration date noted within the content of the voucher. As you will have already booked your opticians appointment when you receive your voucher, these should not expire before their use. In the event that the voucher has expired the Trust will not in normal circumstances be able to provide a replacement. The Trust will not recover the cost of expired vouchers from staff members. Only in exceptional circumstances and at the discretion of the Trust, will replacement vouchers be issued.

Why can't I apply for a Vision Express Eye Care Voucher anymore?

Vision Express announced in June 2022 that they are changing the Terms and Conditions of their VDU Eye Care Vouchers. As an employer, the Trust felt that the new terms and conditions no longer provided the good value previously offered. The Trust have therefore made the decision to discontinue with the use of their services, and will be using Specsavers as our only provider.

The change to their terms and conditions is effective from the 25th October 2022 and therefore after this date, any vouchers issued prior to the contractual changes, will be void.

Terms and Conditions

The terms and conditions for the use of the vouchers may vary slightly depending on the provider.

Specsavers Terms and Conditions of eVoucher use:

1. Glasses should be chosen on the day of your test.
2. Please present eVouchers on arrival in store.
3. Specific glasses are given for VDU use only when a customer requires a different prescription or lens types to their normal everyday glasses.
4. Premium Cub Discount applies to selected in-store offeres only.
 - 4.1. Cannot be used alongside over-60s discount, student discount, the sale or easycare.
5. All terms for in-store offers apply.
6. Cannot be used towards contact lenses.
7. eVouchers are not for resale or transfer, and cannot be exchanged for cash.
8. Cannot be used by persons under 16.
9. One VDU eVoucher per transaction
10. Can be used only by the person named on the voucher.

Where can I find out more?

If you have further questions regarding Eye Care voucher please contact the HR Team at hr@westst.org.uk in the first instance.

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