

Maryland State Department of Education
Division of Rehabilitation Services
Scheduling Low Vision Evaluations

Scheduling a low vision evaluation is a very important step in the rehabilitation process for both vocational rehabilitation (VR) and ILOB (Independent Living Older Blind) consumers. A low vision evaluation will provide lots of information, including diagnosis, prognosis, treatment needed, low- and high-tech device recommendations, and more. This information is valuable in making eligibility decisions and during plan development.

Although the evaluation process is relatively similar, some providers have additional resources on their team to provide additional information. Below is an outline of two such providers and instructions on how to draft those authorizations.

For all other low vision providers, use the standard fee schedule to select services based on what you are requesting. Please note the maximum fees for all providers are the same.

Wilmer Low Vision

Authorization for Low Vision

You need to issue two different authorizations.

Authorization #1: Authorization for Low Vision

- Use **Vendor Mail Code #:** 366
 - **FID #:** 520595110
 - **Vendor Name:** Johns Hopkins University – Wilmer Eye Institute
- Include all of the following:
 1. **Category:** Assessments
Subcategory: Low Vision Assessment **\$275**
 2. **Category:** Assessments
Subcategory: Low Vision Assessment – Visual Field Test **\$80**
 3. **Category:** Assessments
Subcategory: Low Vision Assessment – Low Vision Device Fitting **\$91**
 4. **Category:** Assessments
Subcategory: Occupational Therapy Evaluation (\$42 per ¼ hour for up to 2 hours) **\$336**

Put the appointment date and time in the **Special Instructions** if you have scheduled an appointment. If the consumer is going to call to schedule, indicate the consumer will call to schedule in the **Special Instructions**.

Authorization #2: Authorization for Facility Fee

NOTE: Baltimore downtown location only – does not apply to satellite locations.

- Use **Vendor Mail Code #:** 114
 - **FID #:** 520591656
 - **Vendor Name:** The Johns Hopkins Hospital PO BOX 418297 Boston

- Include the following:

1. **Category:** Assessments

Subcategory: Low Vision Assessment – Facility Fee

\$160

Useful Information:

- Call 410-955-0580 (Option #4) to schedule an appointment.
- Email Kim Soistman ksoists1@jhmi.edu if you need device pricing.
- If the consumer needs to return to the Baltimore facility (DORS approved), an additional fee of \$160 to cover the facility charge should be added to the authorization.
- The Consumer Entrance is 1800 Orleans Street, Baltimore, MD 21287. This should be included on the authorization or in the letters to the consumer.
- Make sure you receive two different invoices, one for each authorization.

GBMC/Hoover Low Vision

Authorization for Low Vision

Include all of the following:

1. **Category:** Assessments

Subcategory: Low Vision Assessment

\$275

2. **Category:** Assessments

Subcategory: Low Vision Assessment – Visual Field Test

\$80

3. **Category:** Assessments

Subcategory: Low Vision Assessment – Low Vision Device Fitting

\$91

4. **Category:** Assessments

Subcategory: Occupational Therapy Evaluation (\$42 per ¼ hour for up to 2 hours)

\$336

Put the appointment date and time in the **Special Instructions** if you have scheduled an appointment. If the consumer is going to call to schedule, indicate the consumer will call to schedule in the **Special Instructions**.

Authorizations can be faxed to **443-849-2631**. Please call the Hoover office at **443-849-2658** to confirm receipt of the fax.

Useful Information:

- Michelle Bianchi OTR/L, CLVT performs the OT assessments focusing on low vision, safety, and fall prevention. Her email is mbianchi@gbmc.org.
- Dr. Janet Sunness is the medical director and performs low vision assessments. Her email is jsunness@gbmc.org.
- The staff in the business office will always bill insurance first, if the consumer has insurance. Sometimes we are not sure if the visit is covered by insurance.
- The address is GBMC/Hoover Low Vision Rehabilitation Services, 6569 North Charles Street, Physicians Pavilion West #504, Baltimore, MD 21204. This should be included on the authorization or in the letters to the consumer.