

About the NEW mandatory eye examination law

Children entering kindergarten in Illinois public, private or parochial schools are now required to have a complete eye examination, (which also applies to students transferring to an Illinois school). October 15 is the deadline to file an eye exam report with the student's school. It is recommended that parents attend to this requirement early to avoid last minute scheduling difficulties.

This law recognizes the importance of good vision as it relates to learning. Eighty percent of everything a child learns in school depends on vision. Our comprehensive children's examination includes an assessment of eye health, to detect eye diseases, and tests of visual acuity, refraction and eye coordination. In addition, eye alignment and focusing skills are also checked. Early discovery of eye disease, amblyopia and vision problems can lead to timely treatment thus enhancing educational outcomes and improving quality of life.

Teachers deserve to have students who are "visually ready" for learning. Reading and deskwork are particularly taxing to primary grade students. Today's classroom is very stressful and poor vision can further add to the demand and difficulties facing young children and their teachers.

Likewise, children deserve to have optimum vision as they enter school. Corrective lenses and being aware of visual limitations can go a long way to insure a child achieves at his/her maximum potential.

Our office will do everything we can to investigate your child's eye and vision status, offer advice on appropriate treatment (if needed) and explain the role of vision as it relates to reading and learning. In addition we will provide a school Eye Examination Report that will serve as proof of meeting the mandatory eye exam requirement.

As always, continued eye health and vision enhancement are our main concern. We look forward to working with you and your children throughout their educational years.

Dr. Tom Lawless & Staff

For an appointment

815.284.2020