

1981 No. 60

HEALTH AND PERSONAL SOCIAL SERVICES
General Ophthalmic Services (Amendment) Regulations
(Northern Ireland) 1981

Made 3rd March 1981

Coming into operation 1st April 1981

The Department(a) of Health and Social Services in exercise of the powers conferred on it by Articles 98, 106 and 107 of and Schedule 15 to the Health and Personal Social Services (Northern Ireland) Order 1972(b) and of all other powers enabling it in that behalf, and with the approval of and in conjunction with the Department(a) of Finance, hereby makes the following regulations:

Citation and commencement

1. These regulations may be cited as the General Ophthalmic Services (Amendment) Regulations (Northern Ireland) 1981 and shall come into operation on 1st April 1981.

Amendment of regulations

2. The Health and Personal Social Services (General Ophthalmic Services) Regulations (Northern Ireland) 1975(c) shall be further amended as follows:

- (1) In regulation 2 —
 - (a) the definition of “full-time school education” shall be deleted;
 - (b) after the definition “patient” there shall be inserted the definition:

“ “qualifying full-time education” means full-time instruction at a recognised educational establishment or by other means accepted as comparable by the Department and “recognised educational establishment” means an establishment recognised by the Department as being, or as comparable to, a school, college or university;”.
- (2) For the proviso to regulation 18(1) there shall be substituted:

“Provided that this paragraph shall not apply to the supply, to persons who at the time of the testing of sight leading to the supply of the optical appliance or of the first such testing were under 16 years of age, or were under 19 years of age and receiving qualifying full-time education, of optical appliances where the standard type of children’s frame as described in the Statement is used;”.
- (3) For regulation 19(3)(a) there shall be substituted:

“(a) were under 19 years of age and receiving qualifying full-time education, or”.
- (4) For regulation 21(1)(a) there shall be substituted:

“(a) the person for whom the optical appliance is supplied was at the relevant time of the age of ten or more and either under 16 years of age or under 19 years of age and receiving qualifying full-time education; and”.

(a) Formerly Ministry; see 1973 c. 36, s. 40 and Sch. 5 para. 8

(b) S.I. 1972/1265 (N.I. 14)

(c) S.R. 1975 No. 372, relevant amending legislation is S.R. 1977 No. 80 and S.R. 1978 No. 21

(5) For regulation 21(2)(b) there shall be substituted:

“(b) where the age of such patient is 16 years or more and under 19 years, a certificate, given on behalf of an Education and Library Board or on behalf of the principal teacher or proprietor of an educational establishment, is submitted to the optician supplying the optical appliance at the same time as the approved form is presented certifying that the patient for whom the lenses or the children’s glasses are to be supplied was at the relevant time receiving qualifying full-time education; and”.

(6) For Part I of Schedule 3 there shall be substituted:

“SCHEDULE 3

Regulation 18

PART I

Lenses

<i>Column 1</i> <i>Description of lens</i>	<i>Column 2</i>
1. Glass single vision spherical lens with spherical power up to and including (plus or minus) 6 dioptres (curved)	£2.90
2. Single vision lens of a description other than that specified in 1 (including single vision lenticular, frosted and chavassed lenses)	£3.35
3. Plastic bifocal lens (full aperture)	£6.35
4. Fused glass bifocal lens	£6.85
5. Lens of any other description	£8.30.”

Application

3. These regulations shall apply only to the supply of an optical appliance under the Health and Personal Social Services (Northern Ireland) Order 1972 where the testing of sight or the first testing of sight leading to the supply of that appliance or the making of the arrangements in pursuance of which the appliance is supplied takes place after 31st March 1981.

Sealed with the Official Seal of the Department of Health and Social Services for Northern Ireland on 3rd March 1981.

(L.S.)

W. Young

Assistant Secretary

Sealed with the Official Seal of the Department of Finance for Northern Ireland on 3rd March 1981.

(L.S.)

R. McMurray

Assistant Secretary

EXPLANATORY NOTE

(This note is not part of the Regulations.)

These regulations further amend the Health and Personal Social Services (General Ophthalmic Services) Regulations (Northern Ireland) 1975 by providing for an increase in the charges for lenses supplied under general ophthalmic services. They also provide that persons under 16 years of age or under 19 years of age and receiving qualifying full-time education are exempt from the charges for standard lenses in health service frames and for frames from the children's range supplied under the health service.