

Health services

College of Optometry South High Vision Service/Columbus City Schools Program

When Columbus City Schools nurses identify children who are in need of vision care, they are able to refer these children to the College of Optometry South High Vision Service, located in the OSU Family Practice facility at 1405 South High Street. Under faculty supervision, fourth-year optometry externs provide comprehensive vision examinations to Columbus City school children from ages 3-18 years. Spectacle eye wear is donated to those children having no insurance and financial need. The children are scheduled for appointments through the school nurses, and the nurses or the children's parents bring them to the examinations. Hundreds of children have received services through this program. This program is supported by the College of Optometry, the Ohio Optometric Association, Select Optical, and the VSP Sight for Students Program

Participating Schools: Franklin County: Columbus City.

Ohio State Contact: College of Optometry, 614-293-2920, greatvision.osu.edu/clinics/southHigh.cfm; www.sightforstudents.org. External Partners: Ohio Optometric Association, Select Optical, Vision Service Plan.

Eye Care for Ohio State School for the Blind

Senior optometry students go to the Ohio State School for the Blind one half day each week to provide primary eye care services to the enrolled students. On an as needed basis, children from the Ohio State School for the Blind come to the OSU College of Optometry Clinic for Low Vision evaluations.

Participating Schools: Franklin County: Ohio State School for the Blind.

Ohio State Contact: College of Optometry, 614-292-0867, www.greatvision.osu.edu.

OHIO Project/Dental HOME (Health Outreach Mobile Experience) Program

The OHIO Project (Oral Health Improvement through Outreach) improves access to dental care for underserved Ohio adults and children. by assigning senior dental students are assigned to community health sites throughout the state and provide much needed dental treatment under the supervision of licensed dentists in those sites. The project hopes to assist in decreasing oral disease affecting the poor, elderly, and members of various racial and ethnic groups. The Dental HOME Coach takes mobile dental care to an estimated 4,500 Columbus students annually within schools where a high need has been identified.

Participating Schools: Franklin County: Columbus City.

Ohio State Contact: College of Dentistry, 614-247-8064, ohioprospect.org. Nationwide Children's Hospital.

Preschool Vision Screenings

Through the Ohio Optometric Association, the Ohio Department of Health and the Ohio Association of Free Clinics, students from the College of Optometry provide vision screenings to preschoolers at surrounding Columbus Headstart locations. These screenings are done in conjunction with the College of Nursing and the College of Dentistry. Hundreds of children are screened through this program.

Participating Schools: Franklin County: Canal Winchester Local; Columbus City; Dublin City; independent—Clintonville Academy; Oakstone Academy. Madison County: London City.

Ohio State Contact: College of Optometry, 614-224-6617 ext 2107. Internal Partners: College of Nursing, College of Dentistry. External Partners: Ohio Optometric Association, Ohio Department of Health.



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Dental students in the OHIO Project (photo courtesy of the College of Dentistry)

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School Vision Screenings

Optometry students screen typically first-grade children in South-Western City and Gahanna school districts as well as a few other schools to detect vision problems that may affect children's learning. Approximately 2,500 children are screened during the Autumn quarter. Costs of the screenings are frequently paid by local Lions clubs or Parent Teacher Organizations.

Participating Schools: Only a limited number of districts/schools/youth can be served, currently unable to accept new schools into the program. 2008-09 participants: Franklin County: Gahanna-Jefferson City, South-Western City.
Ohio State Contact: College of Optometry, 614-247-6840.

Sports Medicine for High School Athletes

Ohio State's Sports Medicine Center and the Columbus City Schools have a partnership designed to enhance the availability of high-quality sports medicine care for the student athletes in the district. The center serves as the official sports medicine provider for the district.

Participating Schools: Franklin County: Columbus City.
Ohio State Contact: Sports Medicine Center, OSU Medical Center, 614-293-3600, sportsmedicine.osu.edu/Outreach/CMH_Pub_Schools.htm.

Vision Screening for the King Arts Complex Back to School Program

More than 70 school-aged children received vision screenings at the King Arts Complex Back to School event. The children also received health screenings from nurse practitioner students from the Ohio State College of Nursing.

Participating Schools: Schools in Franklin County.
Ohio State Contact: College of Optometry, 614-224-6617 ext 2107. Internal Partner: College of Nursing. External Partner: King Arts Complex.

Weinland Park Health and Wellness Project

Project volunteers evaluate children and provide mental health and health services at Weinland Park Elementary School.

Participating Schools: Franklin County: Columbus City—Weinland Park Elementary.
Ohio State Contact: OSU Medical Center, 614-293-5972. Internal Partners: Harding Hospital; College of Nursing; College of Medicine, School of Allied Medical Professions; College of Education and Human Ecology.

Situps at Weinland Park (photo courtesy of Engaged Partners)

