

Eye on Health

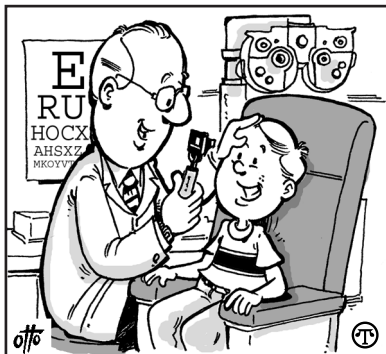
Vision Checkups Open Eyes To Learning Success

(NAPSA)—During the school year is a great time to focus on ways to open students' eyes to more learning success. With one in four children having an undiagnosed vision problem that can interfere with learning and lead to other academic challenges, now is the time to give students a clear vision for their future.

In fact, an eye exam may be one of the best ways to boost your child's opportunities in the classroom.

This year alone, 10 million children will go to school with a vision problem that could interfere with their learning ability, contribute to disciplinary problems and put them at risk for permanent vision loss, according to the College of Optometrists in Vision Development (COVD). The group also warns that when vision problems go undetected, students have trouble reading and doing schoolwork and may display fatigue, fidgeting and frustration in the classroom. A full 70 percent of school-age children who have a learning disability in reading have some sort of visual problem, according to the COVD.

Early diagnosis and treatment of children's vision problems is a necessary component to school readiness and academic learning, according to the National Parent Teacher Association. Comprehensive eye and vision examinations are important for all children entering school and regularly



Inattention or poor handwriting could indicate vision problems.

throughout their school-aged years to ensure healthy eyes and adequate visual skills essential for successful academic achievement, according to the Association.

To help, a health care discount program called HealthSaver offers discounts of up to 50 percent on vision care, as well as discounts of up to 50 percent on prescriptions at participating pharmacies, and up to 30 percent off complementary and alternative health care treatments and fitness club benefits. Members can also save from 5 to 50 percent off vitamins and supplements by mail.

Discounts are based on reasonable and customary costs or manufacturers suggested retail price and are available from participating providers. HealthSaver is not an insurance product or service. Learn more at www.healthsaver.com or call 1-800-7HEALTH (1-800-743-2584).