

Lasik FAQs

LASIK was first approved for use by the FDA in 1998, and since that time millions of patients across the globe are now enjoying the benefits clear vision with reduced or eliminated dependence on glasses or contact lenses.

Will I be able to throw away my glasses or contact lenses?

The goal of LASIK for most patients is to achieve partial or complete independence from glasses and/or contact lenses after the procedure. While most patients are able to achieve complete spectacle independence, some patients, especially those with large refractive errors may require a glasses prescription for activities such as night driving or watching movies in a dark room. In addition, it is normal for patients with good uncorrected distance vision in both eyes (whether LASIK was performed or not) to require reading glasses for close vision after age 40. This need for reading glasses is a normal age-related condition called presbyopia. Treatment options are available for presbyopia so please consult with one of our staff members for further details.

Am I a good LASIK candidate?

Fortunately, the LASIK procedure is capable of successfully treating the vast majority of patients with nearsightedness (myopia), farsightedness (hyperopia) and/or astigmatism. However, not everyone is a good candidate for LASIK surgery. One's LASIK candidacy is determined after an in office free screening evaluation, a review of one's medical history and a determination of one's visual goals. Those patients with exceptionally large refractive errors may not be good candidates for LASIK. A stable glasses or contact lens prescription for 1 year or more is required. Patients with ocular conditions such as keratoconus or who have thin corneas may not be good candidates for LASIK. Patients on certain medications, have certain medical conditions, are pregnant or nursing, or who plan to become pregnant in the near future may not be good LASIK candidates. We encourage you to schedule a free LASIK evaluation with one of our doctors to determine your candidacy.

Is LASIK surgery painful?

LASIK surgery is not painful. Strong anesthetic (numbing) drops are used to help prevent any discomfort associated with the procedure.

How soon after LASIK can I return to work?

Many patients are able to return to work within 24 to 48 hours following LASIK surgery.

What are the side effects?

A small minority of LASIK patients may experience nighttime side effects from LASIK such as halos, starbursts, glare around lights and blurry vision. In most of these cases, the side effects resolve over time.

Does insurance cover LASIK?The majority of insurance plans do not cover elective procedures such as LASIK. A thorough review your specific policy can be done to see if insurance coverage exists for LASIK.

Do you offer LASIK financing?

Yes. Financing options are available. Our surgical coordinators are happy to discuss these with you.