

## 2026 HOW TO RECEIVE SERVICE FROM MID-SOUTH LIONS SIGHT AND HEARING SERVICE



You will need to complete an application for service when sponsoring a patient to the Mid-South Lions Sight and Hearing Service. There are separate applications for sight and hearing, please use the appropriate application. The federal financial guidelines to qualify for our service are listed on the other side of this and must be strictly followed. Unless there are extenuating circumstances (there are very few exceptions such as medical bills or recent unemployment) patients whose income is greater than the guidelines cannot be considered for service.

Due to the increased cost of hearing aids, ALL hearing applications must be accompanied by a **\$250** check to cover the cost of one hearing aid. Hearing aids are limited to one per patient, per year unless two hearing aids are prescribed by our audiologist. The club must decide whether to fund two hearing aids (**\$500**) if so prescribed. If a hearing aid is not prescribed, the club has the option of a refund, holding it for their next hearing patient, or allowing Mid-South to keep the funds as a club contribution.

The main sight clinic is located on the 2<sup>nd</sup> floor of the Hamilton Eye Institute at 930 Madison Avenue in Memphis. Additional satellite clinics and specialty clinics (prosthetics, retinas) are located throughout the four-state area (see application for details). Mid-South Lions hearing clinics are located at the Memphis Speech and Hearing Clinic at 807 Jefferson Ave in Memphis and UTMP Clinic at 1325 Eastmoreland Suite 260. It is also important for you to make a copy of the application for your Club's records.

**To ensure the most expedited service the sponsoring Lions Club MUST submit the following:**

1. A completed, signed up-to-date application (all questions must be answered)  
The sponsoring Lions Club must complete the top part and the interviewing Lion should assist the patient in completing ALL patient information. Mid-South produces new applications on a regular basis, please contact the Mid-South Lions office for the latest application and financial guidelines.
2. A written diagnosis from a local eye-care professional (Mid-South should never be used as the primary care vision provider, patients **may only be referred after** being examined by a local eye-care professional)
3. Proof of household income (copies of W-2, Form 1040, 1040A, 1040 EZ, check stub, Social Security receipt, etc) This is proof of income for the entire household, not just the patient.

**FAILURE TO SUBMIT ALL REQUIRED ITEMS WILL RESULT IN THE APPLICATION BEING RETURNED TO THE SPONSORING LIONS CLUB AND WILL DELAY THE PROCESS SIGNIFICANTLY.**

Sight applications are only valid for **THREE MONTHS** from the patient's first appointment. If further care is needed after **THREE MONTHS**, the patient should be seen by a local eye-care professional **prior to** the sponsoring club renewing the application. If long-term vision care is required, Mid-South Lions will provide care through the Memphis-area Church Health Center or other satellite clinic. *Hearing patients' applications are valid for one-year from the first appointment.*

We will notify the patient and the interviewing Lion as to whether the patient has been approved for service, and if approved when and where their first appointment will be. It will be up to the patient and the interviewing Lion to arrange transportation. Currently there is a somewhat lengthy waiting period to get an appointment and/or surgery. *Incomplete forms will cause unnecessary delays in processing of the application.* Please mail the application and applicable attachments to the Mid-South office, not the clinic. Faxing applications **will not** expedite the process. The patient's first visit to Mid-South is for evaluation purposes ONLY. Please do not expect surgery on the first visit. Mid-South Lions Sight and Hearing Service depend on Lions Club contributions to continue providing "A Miracle A Day" to patients in your service area. (January 2026)

# Federal Indigent Guidelines for 2026

*Or until further notice*

This is a list of hospital limits on income.

**BEFORE ANY DEDUCTIONS**

**INCOME FIGURES MUST BE POSTED ON ANY APPLICATION FOR SERVICE  
FAILURE TO POST INCOME WILL RESULT IN REJECTION OF APPLICATION**

**INCOME BEFORE DEDUCTIONS:**

NUMBER IN THE FAMILY	WEEKLY*	MONTHLY**	ANNUAL***
1	\$307	\$1,330	\$15,960
2	\$417	\$1,803	\$21,640
3	\$527	\$2,276	\$27,320
4	\$637	\$2,769	\$33,000
5	\$747	\$3,222	\$38,680
6	\$857	\$3,695	\$44,360
7	\$967	\$4,168	\$50,040
8	\$1,077	\$4,641	\$55,720

\* For family units of more than 8 members, add \$110 for each additional member.

\*\* For family units of more than 8 members, add \$473 for each additional member.

\*\*\* For family units of more than 8 members, add \$5,680 for each additional member.

Anyone making more than this is considered OVER SCALE by the United States government guidelines, which the hospital must follow. However, the Mid-South Lions Sight and Hearing Service staff examines each case on an individual basis. Barring extenuating circumstances, each Lions Club should see that these guidelines are met.

The hospital requires that all sponsored patients provide proof of their current income. This may be in the form of a current income tax return or a copy of the last payroll check or Social Security checks.

If the patient is a minor, they MUST be accompanied by one of the parents or a legal guardian.

The income requirement standards on this form are subject to change as government guidelines change.