

WORLD SIGHT DAY SPECIAL

Launching on
Thursday 8 October
2026

VISION SCIENCE ACADEMY LEARNING CENTRE

VSA Global Eye Health Programme

Learn beyond the eye. Think beyond the clinic.

3 Specialised
courses

3 Course
certificates

1 Programme Completion
Certificate

A SPECIALISED LEARNING PROGRAMME

Eye care is more than *clinical practice*.

Improving eye health requires more than knowledge of diagnosis and treatment. It also requires an understanding of communities, prevention, health promotion, access to care and the wider global eye-health landscape.

The VSA Global Eye Health Programme connects community optometry, global ophthalmology and public health into one learning pathway. It brings together three specialised courses, delivered online through the Vision Science Academy Learning Centre, for a broader understanding of eye care.



LAUNCH DATE

World Sight Day
8 October 2026

WORLD SIGHT DAY 2026

#LoveYourEyes

This year's World Sight Day campaign, led by the International Agency for the Prevention of Blindness (IAPB), calls for accessible eye care, available sight tests and affordable glasses. We are launching this programme on the same day, because these are the questions it helps you understand.

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WHY GLOBAL EYE HEALTH MATTERS

The need is vast. *Much of it is avoidable.*

2.2 billion

people globally have a near or distance vision impairment.¹

1 billion

of these cases, at least, could have been prevented or are yet to be addressed.¹

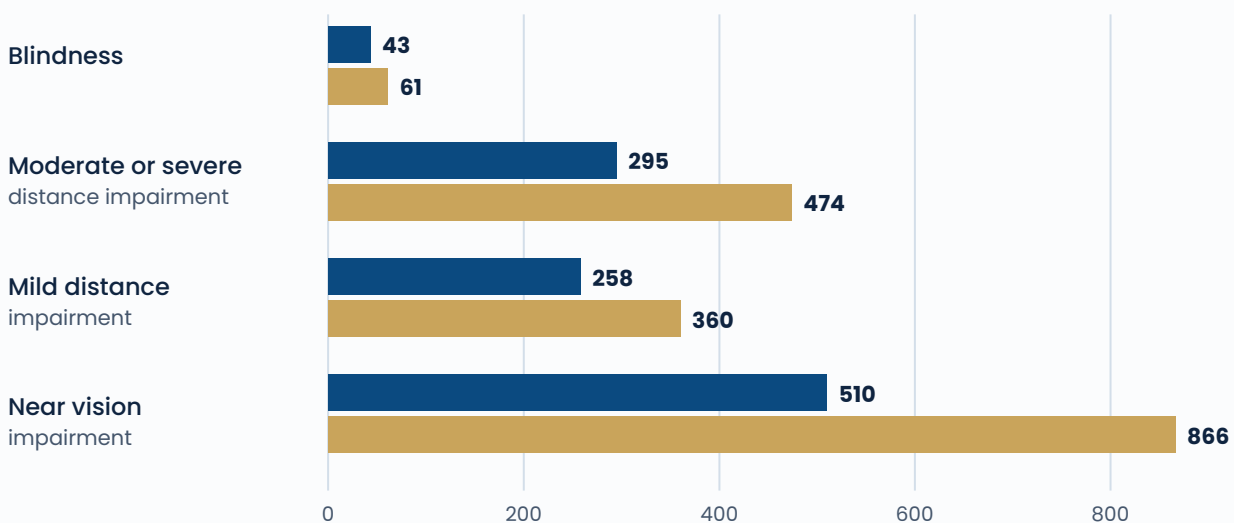
US\$411bn

estimated annual global cost of lost productivity due to vision impairment.¹

People living with vision loss, by category (millions)

2020 estimate compared with 2050 projection²

■ 2020 ■ 2050



Total living with vision loss, 2020 **1.1 billion**

Projected total, 2050 **1.7 billion**



2 in 3

people in low-income countries who need eyeglasses do not have access to them.¹



1 in 2

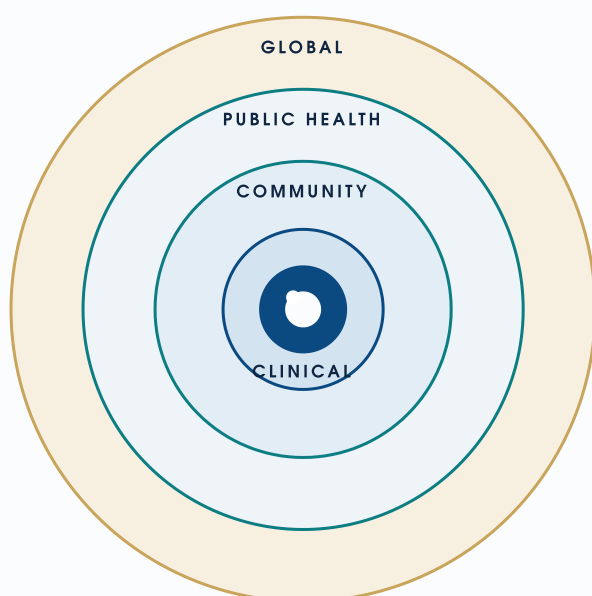
people globally who need cataract surgery do not have access to it.¹

1. World Health Organization, *Blindness and vision impairment* fact sheet, updated 10 February 2026. 2. IAPB Vision Atlas, *Magnitude of vision loss* evidence series (based on Bourne et al., *The Lancet Global Health*, 2021).

THE PROGRAMME'S PERSPECTIVE

Widen your *field of view*.

The programme moves outward from the individual in the consulting room to the health of communities, populations and the world.



- 01 Clinical**
Understand the individual and the care they receive.
- 02 Community**
Understand the needs of the populations we serve.
- 03 Public Health**
Explore prevention, health promotion and population health.
- 04 Global**
See eye care within a wider international health context.

How the three courses connect

Course	Community	Public Health	Global
01 Public Health and Community Optometry	●	●	—
02 Global Ophthalmology in Eye Care	—	—	●
03 Seeing Communities: Population Eye Health	●	●	—

● Main focus, based on each course's published description. Every course builds on the clinical perspective.

YOUR LEARNING PATHWAY

Three specialised courses. *One connected perspective.*

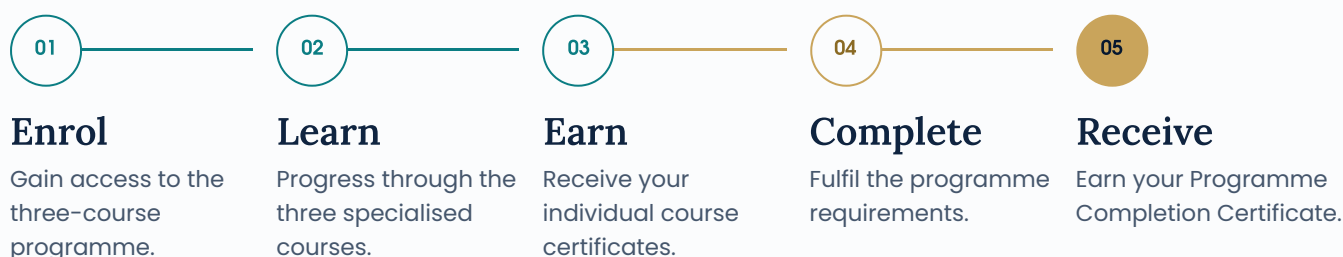
PROGRAMME	VSA Global Eye Health Programme: a specialised learning programme in community and global eye care
DELIVERED BY	Vision Science Academy Learning Centre, online
COURSES	01 Public Health and Community Optometry 02 Global Ophthalmology in Eye Care 03 Seeing Communities: Population Eye Health
CERTIFICATES	Four in total: three course certificates and one Programme Completion Certificate
LAUNCH	World Sight Day, Thursday 8 October 2026
PROGRAMME FEE	Confirmed on enquiry
ENQUIRIES	info@visionscienceacademy.org

Learning formats

One video-based course and two text-based courses

VIDEO-BASED Course 01	TEXT-BASED Courses 02 and 03
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Programme journey



01

▶ VIDEO-BASED COURSE

Public Health and Community Optometry

Explore community-oriented approaches to optometry, prevention, health promotion, outreach and public health.

KEY THEMES

- **Community-oriented optometry.** Optometry practised with the needs of the wider community in mind, not only the patient in the chair.
- **Prevention.** Acting before vision is lost: preventing disease, detecting it early and reducing its impact.
- **Health promotion.** Enabling people to increase control over, and to improve, their health.
- **Outreach.** Taking eye care to people who do not easily reach it.
- **Public health.** Protecting and improving health through the organised efforts of society.

FORMAT	Video-based
DELIVERY	Online, VSA Learning Centre
FOCUS	Community · Public Health

YOU EARN

I

Course Certificate on successful completion

02

≡ TEXT-BASED COURSE

Global Ophthalmology in Eye Care

Examine eye care through a global health lens, including access, equity, systems and worldwide eye-health challenges.

KEY THEMES

- **A global health lens.** Seeing eye care as part of health worldwide, not only in one country or clinic.
- **Access.** Whether people can obtain the eye care they need, when and where they need it.
- **Equity.** The absence of unfair and avoidable differences in eye health between groups of people.
- **Systems.** The organisations, people and actions that together deliver eye care.
- **Worldwide eye-health challenges.** Globally, the leading causes of vision impairment and blindness are refractive errors and cataracts.

FORMAT	Text-based
DELIVERY	Online, VSA Learning Centre
FOCUS	Global

II

YOU EARN

Course Certificate on
successful completion

Leading causes: World Health Organization, *Blindness and vision impairment* fact sheet, 2026.

03

TEXT-BASED COURSE

Seeing Communities: Population Eye Health

Build foundational knowledge of public health, population health, health education and prevention.

KEY THEMES

- Public health. Preventing disease, prolonging life and promoting health through the organised efforts of society.
- Population health. The health of a whole group of people, and how it is distributed within that group.
- Health education. Helping people understand their eye health and the care available to them.
- Prevention. Primary (stopping disease starting), secondary (finding it early) and tertiary (reducing its impact).

FORMAT	Text-based
DELIVERY	Online, VSA Learning Centre
FOCUS	Community · Public Health

III

YOU EARN

Course Certificate on successful completion

PRIMARY

Stop eye disease from starting

SECONDARY

Detect and treat it early

TERTIARY

Reduce its impact on daily life

WHAT YOU RECEIVE

One programme. *Four* certificates.

Your programme enrolment combines three specialised courses with individual course recognition and a final programme credential: one certificate for each course you complete, plus the Programme Completion Certificate when you finish the full programme.



Four certificates in total: three Course Certificates (I, II and III) and the Programme Completion Certificate. Certificate designs shown are illustrative.

CERTIFICATE	AWARDED FOR
I Course Certificate	Successful completion of Public Health and Community Optometry
II Course Certificate	Successful completion of Global Ophthalmology in Eye Care
III Course Certificate	Successful completion of Seeing Communities: Population Eye Health
Programme Completion Certificate	Fulfilling the requirements of the full programme

“Three specialised learning experiences brought together into one broader vision of eye health.”

WHO IS IT FOR?

Built for learners who want to see *the bigger picture*.

Designed for learners and professionals who want to explore eye care beyond the traditional clinical setting.



Optometry students



Optometrists



Ophthalmology
students and
professionals



Vision science
learners



Public health learners



Researchers and
academics



Healthcare
professionals



Global eye health
enthusiasts

FREQUENTLY ASKED QUESTIONS

What is the VSA Global Eye Health Programme?

A three-course specialised learning programme in community and global eye care.

How many courses are included?

Three specialised courses are included in one programme enrolment.

What certificates are included?

Three individual course certificates and one Programme Completion Certificate, subject to completion of the relevant requirements.

Who can enrol?

Students, professionals, researchers and learners interested in eye care, vision science, public health and global health.

Are all courses in the same format?

No. The programme combines one video-based course with two text-based courses.

Where is the programme delivered?

Online, through the Vision Science Academy Learning Centre.

WORLD SIGHT DAY SPECIAL

Begin your *Global Eye Health* learning journey.

STEP 1

Get in touch

Email
info@visionscienceacademy.org
with the subject "VSA Global Eye
Health Programme".

STEP 2

Share your details

Include your full name, your role
and your country, so that we can
reply with the right information.

STEP 3

Confirm and begin

Our team will confirm the
programme fee and the next
steps to start learning online.

YOUR ENROLMENT INCLUDES

- ✓ Three specialised courses
- ✓ Three course certificates
- ✓ One final Programme Completion Certificate (four certificates in total)
- ✓ Video-based and text-based learning, online

ENQUIRIES AND ENROLMENT

info@visionscienceacademy.orgvisionscienceacademy.org

*Learn beyond the eye. Think beyond
the clinic.*



Inspiring Excellence in Vision Sciences

VSA GLOBAL EYE HEALTH PROGRAMME · LAUNCHING 8 OCTOBER 2026

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