This report will help the Australian Government Department of Human Services in determining if you can be paid Age Pension or Disability Support Pension on the basis of permanent blindness. It asks you to give us a report about your visual impairment from your specialist.

1 Contact your specialist and make an appointment to have the report completed.

Make sure the specialist and their receptionist know that you will need the report completed. The time taken to complete the report may be claimed by your specialist under a Medicare item when included as part of a consultation. If your specialist does not bulk bill, your consultation fee may be more than usual because of the extra time taken to complete the report.

2 Attend the appointment with your specialist.

Give the report (pages 5 to 8) to your specialist to complete.

3 Return the report within 14 days for new claims, or 13 weeks for a Service Update.

Your specialist may return the report to us or give it to you to return. If you cannot return the report within this time, contact us for extra time. If you have any other medical reports, please bring them in or post them to us as soon as possible.

Please keep these notes (pages 1 to 4) for your information.
Why do I need to get a report from my ophthalmologist/optometrist?

Before we can work out whether we can pay you Age Pension or Disability Support Pension on the basis of blindness, we need some information about your visual impairment. An optometrist can complete the report but it must be supported by an ophthalmologist. If you prefer, your local blind society may be able to give you a report signed by an ophthalmologist that measures your visual acuity under the Snellen Scale.

Will I need to have a Job Capacity Assessment?

The report from your specialist may give us all the information that we need. If you need to have a Job Capacity Assessment we will write to you about it. Age Pension customers are not required to have a Job Capacity Assessment.

What happens if I do not give Human Services a report from my ophthalmologist/optometrist?

If you are claiming or receiving Age Pension or Disability Support Pension on the basis of blindness and you do not give us a report from your specialist, your claim may be rejected or your payment may be stopped.
Information in other languages

English
To speak to us in a language other than English, call 131 202.
Calls charge applies. Calls from mobile phones may be charged
at a higher rate. Go to humanservices.gov.au and select the
language button to find information in your language.

Arabic
للتواصل إما باللغة العربية أو باللغة الإنجليزية، اتصل بنا على الرقم 131 202. يمكنك الوصول إلى
ال الخدمات عن طريق الاتصال بنا عبر الخط الموحد (131 202) وتحديد اللغة العربية أو
اللغة الإنجليزية.

Assyrian
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Bosnian
Da razgovarate sa nama na bosanskom jeziku pozovite 131 202. Pozivi sa mobilnih telefona
mogu se naplaćivati po skupljem tarifu. Pogledajte
humanservices.gov.au i odaberite tipku za jezik da biste
pronašli informacije na svom jeziku.

Chinese
您可以拨打电话131 202 使用中文与我们交谈 致电该号
码需付费 如使用移动电话致电 则收费可能较高 请访问
humanservices.gov.au网站 按击语言链接后可获取用您的语
言编写的资讯。

Croatian
Da biste s nama razgovarali na hrvatskom, nazovite 131 202.
Poziv se naplaćuje. Pozivi s mobilnog telefona se
mogu naplaćivati po višoj tarifi. Za informacije na
svom jeziku, posetite
humanservices.gov.au i izaberite tipku za strane jezike.

Farsi
پرای اینکه چرا باید چه چیزی باشد که شما 131 202 نام
نام کنند! در حالی که دوکره هر چیزی جدید و نیازمند
جهت نهاد مشابه یا پردازندگی این از دیدگاه روان
سازمان یکی از اهداف آن می‌باشد. به‌عنوان
humanservices.gov.au

Greek
Για να μιλήσετε μαζί μας στα Ελληνικά, καλέστε 131 202. Σχετικά
με την τηλεφωνική χρήση, για το κλήση από κινητά τηλέφωνα
ενδέχεται να μην ισχύουν υπολογιστικές χρέωσης. Επικεφαλής
την ιστοσελίδα humanservices.gov.au και επιλέξτε το κομμάτι
γλώσσας για να βρείτε πληροφορίες στη γλώσσα σας.

Italian
Per parlare con noi in italiano, chiamate il numero 131 202.
Vigono tariffe di chiamata. Le chiamate da telefoni cellulari
possono essere soggette a tariffe superiori. Visitate il sito
humanservices.gov.au e selezionate il comando delle lingue
per trovare informazioni nella vostra lingua.

Khmer
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humanservices.gov.au

Macedonian
За да се обедините со нас на македонски јавете се на 131 202.
Позивот се наплаќа. Повиците од мобилни телефони
може да се налепаат по повисока стапка. Одете на
humanservices.gov.au и одберете го името на јазикот за да
надете информации на вашот јазик.

Serbian
Да бисте разговарали са нами на српском, назвите 131 202.
Pозив се налази. Позвоните са мобилних телефона могу да се
налазе по више тарифи. Погледайте
humanservices.gov.au
и приприте се да ви означите језик да бисте нашли информација
на вашиот јазик.

Spanish
Para hablar con nosotros en español, llame al 131 202. Llamada
tarifada. Llamadas desde teléfonos móviles pueden estar sujetas
a cargos adicionales. Visite humanservices.gov.au y seleccione
el botón de idioma para encontrar información en su lengua.

Turkish
Bizim Türkçe konuşmak için 131 202 numaralı telefonu
arayınız. Aramalar ücretlidir. Cep telefonlarında yapılan
aramalar daha yüksek bir ücretle tabi olabilirler. Kendi
lisansınızda bilgi bulabilmen için humanservices.gov.au
internet sitesine girip lizanızın durumunu basın.

Vietnamese
Xin vui lòng liên hệ với chúng tôi bằng tiếng Việt, xin gọi số
dưới có thể bị tính tiền gọi có cước. Hãy vào trang mạng
humanservices.gov.au và chọn ngữ ngôn để tìm thông tin
bằng ngôn ngữ của quý vị.
This page has been left blank intentionally.
Information for the specialist

We are seeking your co-operation in completing this report on your patient's visual impairment.

To be paid Age Pension or Disability Support Pension on the grounds of permanent blindness, a person must provide evidence of permanent blindness according to the criteria set out in the Guide to the Administration of the social security law. A person is considered to be permanently blind for the purposes of the Social Security Act 1991 if any of the following criteria are satisfied:

(a) visual acuity on the Snellen Scale after correction by suitable lenses is less than 6/60 in both eyes, or

(b) field of vision is constricted to 10 degrees or less of arc around central fixation in the better eye irrespective of corrected visual acuity (equivalent to 1/100 white test object), or

(c) a combination of visual defects results in the same degree of vision impairment as that occurring in (a) or (b) above.

Completing this report

Your report will help us decide whether your patient can be paid Age Pension or Disability Support Pension on the basis of blindness.

We may be able to do this on the basis of your report alone or we may need to have your patient assessed by a Job Capacity Assessor. The information in your report will help us to decide your patient's eligibility.

The type of information that would help us is set out in this report. If there is not enough space for your answers, attach a separate sheet of paper.

Supply any specialist's reports, results or other relevant documents you have which would be of assistance in reaching a decision or incorporate the results in your report.

Returning this report

You can give this report and any attachments to your patient or you can return this report directly to:
Department of Human Services
Disability Services
Reply Paid 7806
CANBERRA BC ACT 2610

Reimbursement for Services

We have asked your patient to let you (and your receptionist) know at the time of making their appointment that they require you to complete this report. This is to ensure that you have sufficient time for the examination and completion of the report. The time taken to complete this report counts towards the length of the consultation. You can claim it as a long consultation.

Confidentiality of information

Personal information provided to you must be kept confidential under section 202 of the Social Security (Administration) Act 1999 and is not to be disclosed to anyone else unless authorised by the person to whom the information relates. The information provided to you must not be used for any other purpose.

Disclosure of information

The Freedom of Information Act 1982 allows for the disclosure of medical or psychiatric information directly to the individual concerned. If there is any information in this report which, if released to your patient, may harm his/her physical or mental well being, identify it and briefly state why you believe it should not be released directly to the patient. Similarly, specify any other special circumstances which should be taken into account when deciding on the release of your report.

Thank you for your assistance.
**Patient’s details—completed by the specialist**

1. **Customer’s details**
   - Full name
   - Address
   - Postcode
   - Date of birth
   - Centrelink Reference Number (CRN) (if known)

2. **Diagnosis**
   - Date of onset

3. **Prognosis**
   - Including potential for improvement with treatment.

4. **What is the best corrected visual acuity using the Snellen Scale?**
   - Specify acuity for:
     - Right eye
     - Left eye
   - Is the corrected visual acuity less than 6/60 in each eye?
     - No
     - Yes

5. **Field of vision**
   - Details
   - Degree of constriction of field of vision (degrees in arc or around central fixation):
     - Right eye
     - Left eye
   - Is the field of vision constricted to 10 degrees or less of arc around central fixation in the better eye irrespective of corrected visual acuity (equivalent to 1/100 white test object)?
     - No
     - Yes
If there are any other visual defects, does their combined effect result in the same degree of vision impairment as that of:

- visual acuity of less than 6/60 in both eyes on the Snellen Scale, after correction by suitable lenses, or
- constriction of field of vision to 10 degrees or less of arc around central fixation in the better eye irrespective of corrected visual acuity (equivalent to 1/100 white test object)?

Are there any other visual defects?  No  Yes

Other comments

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Was this form completed by an:

- Ophthalmologist  Go to Question 9
- Optometrist  Go to Question 8

Is this opinion supported by a report from an Ophthalmologist?

Details of Ophthalmologist involved:

Note: A report from an optometrist cannot be accepted by us unless there has been prior involvement of an ophthalmologist.

Name
Address
Postcode
Phone number ( )
Year of most recent referral

SA013.1403  7 of 8
## Patient's details—completed by the specialist

### 9 IMPORTANT INFORMATION for the Ophthalmologist/Optometrist

Please print in BLOCK LETTERS or use a stamp.

### 10 Details of Ophthalmologist/Optometrist completing this report:

**Name**

**Qualifications**

**Address**

**Postcode**

**Phone number**

(   )

**Signature**

**Date**

/   /