



News & Information

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ESSILOR TO AWARD SCHOOLS WITH 2007 OPTICAL TECHNOLOGY GRANTS

Three grants to be awarded for commitment to advancement in the industry

DALLAS – (September 04, 2007) – Essilor of America, Inc. (EOA) announced it will begin accepting applications for the Essilor Optical Technology Grants on September 15, 2007. The grants will be awarded to schools and colleges of optometry that demonstrate a commitment to growing the industry through new advancements and technology. Essilor has made these grants available to deserving institutions for the past six years.

Applicants must submit an essay of 1,000 words or less describing why the prospective school needs and deserves the grant. All applications will be judged on the school's commitment to the growth of premium optical technology, as well as how the funding will enable the school to elevate the standards and visibility of ophthalmic dispensing for students and patients.

“Essilor has awarded over \$300,000 during the last six years and we are excited to continue to honor schools for their outstanding contributions,” said Dr. Rodney Tahran, EOA vice president of professional relations and clinical affairs. “We are proud to demonstrate our commitment to the industry by supporting the leaders of tomorrow.”

Interested institutions can obtain applications by writing Danne Ventura at dventura@essilor.com. All applications must be signed by an accompanying letter from the prospective school dean or president, and only one application per school may be submitted. Completed applications should be sent to the attention of Danne Ventura by e-mail or by mail at Essilor Lenses, 13555 North Stemmons Freeway, Dallas, TX 75234.

The deadline to submit an application electronically, on CD-ROM or by e-mail, is November 1, 2007. Essilor will announce grant recipients on December 1, 2007. To be considered for future Technology Grants, recipients must submit a written progress report by June 30, 2008.

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Essilor is the leading manufacturer of optical lenses in the United States and is the market leader in progressive, high-index and anti-reflective coated lenses. A pioneer in the development and production of ophthalmic lenses, Essilor employs more than 8,500 people throughout North America. Essilor manufactures optical lenses under the Varilux[®], Crizal[®], Thin&Lite[®], DEFINITY[™] and other Essilor brand names. Essilor Laboratories of America (ELOA) is the largest, and most trusted, optical lab network in the U.S. and offers a wide choice of services and lens brands, including Essilor premium lenses, to eye care professionals across the nation. Essilor of America, Inc. (Essilor) is a subsidiary of Paris-based Essilor International, S.A., the worldwide leader in ophthalmic lenses and a publicly held company traded on the Euronext Paris stock exchange (Reuters: ESSI.PA).

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