



News & Information

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

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ESSILOR TO AWARD ANNUAL VARILUX STUDENT GRANT
Optometry Student to Receive Award for Outstanding Case Report

DALLAS – (October 28, 2008) – Essilor of America, Inc. is currently searching for optometry students across the country to submit applications for its 21st annual Varilux[®] Student Grant Awards. The 2008-2009 grants will be awarded to third-year and fourth-year optometry students.

Applicants must submit case reports with a maximum of 2,000 words on patients fit with Varilux lenses to the school's clinical staff. The clinical faculty and staff will select one recipient based on dispensing skills, application of Varilux lenses to patient needs, analysis of the case and analysis of the lens design and performance.

“We’re proud to continue this exceptional program as a part of our commitment to provide optometry students with assistance to help them excel in their future careers,” said Dr. Rodney Tahrán, vice president of professional relations and clinical affairs for Essilor of America. “The Varilux Student Grant Award program is only a small part of Essilor’s ongoing commitment to optometric education and the optometric profession.”

The student with the winning case report at each school will receive a \$1,000 grant and entry into the national judging round. The national award winner and faculty advisor will each receive an all-expense paid trip for two to the joint meeting of the American Optometry Association (AOA) and American Optometric Student Association (AOSA), to be held June 24–June 28, 2009 in Washington, D.C.

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Case reports should include patient's old and new prescription, occupation, hobbies and any other pertinent information. Student information must include name, address, e-mail address, telephone number and W9 form (available at www.irs.gov/pub/irs-pdf/fw9.pdf).

Applicants should submit completed entries in printed form, on CD-ROM or by e-mail to the attention of Danne Ventura (dventura@essilorusa.com) at Essilor of America, 13555 North Stemmons Freeway, Dallas, TX 75234. Entries must be postmarked or received by Feb. 1, 2009.

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., a publicly held company traded on the Euronext Paris stock exchange (Reuters: ESSI.PA).

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