**2022 Prevent Blindness Rising Visionary Award**

**Application Information**

**Prevent Blindness Rising Visionary Award:**

The Prevent Blindness Rising Visionary Awardis presented annually to an optometry, ophthalmology, primary health care, nursing, or other health professional student or resident in the United States who has the best overall application and essay addressing the 2022 Focus on Eye Health National Summit theme: ***Eye-conic Approaches to Eye Health***. This esteemed award consists of formal acknowledgement and a commemorative plaque to be presented at the [Focus on Eye Health National Summit](http://www.preventblindness.org/eyesummit) virtually on July 13, 2022. The award accompanies an invitation to present on their essay and related work as a speaker of the Summit. Information on previous recipients of the Prevent Blindness Rising Visionary Award can be found [here](https://preventblindness.org/rising-visionary-award/).

**Applicant Criteria:**

Current student or resident in the United States in one of the following fields of study: optometry, ophthalmology, primary health care, nursing, or another health-related field. The applicant with the best overall application and essay based on a question related to the 2022 Focus on Eye Health National Summit theme: *Eye-conic Approaches to Eye Health* will receive the award. The awardee must be available to present virtually at the 2022 Focus on Eye Health National Summit on July 13th, 2022.

**Submission Requirements:**

***Please note****: Submissions not adhering to the guidelines below (responding to each of the three individual essay questions, page limits, word count, etc.) will not be considered.*

* **Application Cover Sheet**
* **Essay**: 500-word essay answering a question based on the 2022 Focus on Eye Health National Summit theme: ***Eye-conic Approaches to Eye Health***.

***QUESTION****: What “eye-conic” individual, group, program, or research discovery will have a significant impact on the future of eye health in the U.S? Describe your reasoning. (Note: Respond to each question below separately and clearly separate out sections.)*

1. Describe the eye-conic individual, group, program, or research discovery. (100 words)
2. How will it positively impact vision and eye health in the U.S.? (250 words)
3. Explain the systems or processes that will need to change for these accomplishments to be made. (150 words)

* **Curriculum Vitae and Personal Statement**: Submit a one-page curriculum vitae containing higher educational accomplishments and current status, positions and employment, honors, professional memberships, and other experience. Please include a 200-word personal statement which describes the relevant academic, experiential and leadership training that prepared you for this essay. [Click here for an example](https://preventblindness.org/wp-content/uploads/2021/01/2021-Prevent-Blindness-Rising-Visionary-Award-Curriculum-Vitae-Example.pdf).
* **Letters of Recommendation**: Up to two recent letters of recommendation from a professor, employer, mentor or other professional with an advisory or supervisory role during the program of study. The letter should describe the terms and duration of the relationship with the applicant (two-page maximum for each letter).

**About Prevent Blindness and the Focus on Eye Health Summit**

Founded in 1908, [Prevent Blindness](http://www.preventblindness.org) is the nation's leading volunteer eye health and safety organization dedicated to fighting blindness and saving sight.  Focused on promoting a continuum of vision care, Prevent Blindness touches the lives of millions of people each year through public and professional education, advocacy, certified vision screening and training, community and patient service programs and research.

Prevent Blindness will host the 11th annual [Focus on Eye Health National Summit](https://www.preventblindness.org/eyesummit) as a virtual interactive event on July 13th-14th, 2022. The Focus on Eye Health National Summit elevates the national dialogue among diverse stakeholder groups around vision and significant population health issues such as surveillance, equity, access, prevention messaging, service integration, program development, and dissemination of best practices. The Summit allows its participants to develop new collaborations, integrate new vision health messages and procedures into their outreach, and improve lines of communication with internal and external partners.

**2022 Prevent Blindness Rising Visionary Award**

**Application Cover Sheet**

**APPLICANT INFORMATION**

Name:

Title:

Training program:

Preferred mailing address:

Email:

Telephone:

Will you be available to speak virtually at the 2022 Focus on Eye Health National Summit on July 13th or 14th, 2022?

**YES**

**NO**

How did you hear about the 2022 Prevent Blindness Rising Visionary Award?

Email

Press release

Social media

Colleague

Other, please specify: \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_

**Application Checklist:**

***Please note****: Submissions not adhering to the guidelines below (responding to each of the three individual essay questions, page limits, word count, etc.) will not be considered.*

**Application Cover Sheet**

**Essay**: 500-word essay answering a question based on the 2022 Focus on Eye Health National Summit theme:

***Eye-conic Approaches to Eye Health.***

***QUESTION****: What “eye-conic” individual, group, program, or research discovery will have a significant impact on the future of eye health in the U.S? Describe your reasoning. (Note: Respond to each question below separately and clearly separate out sections.)*

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**Applicant, please sign after reading:**

*I certify that the information contained in this application is correct to the best of my knowledge. I understand that to falsify or omit information is grounds for this award to be revoked or withdrawn. I acknowledge that the Prevent Blindness Rising Visionary Award may be revoked or withdrawn at any time by Prevent Blindness for any reason.*

**Applicant signature:** \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_

**Date:** ­­­­­­­­­­­­­­­­­­\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_

**Email the items listed above with the subject “2022 Prevent Blindness Rising Visionary Award” to Nita Sinha, Director of Public Health at** [**npatelsinha@preventblindness.org**](mailto:npatelsinha@preventblindness.org) **by Friday, February 4th, 2022 at noon ET.**