**2023 Prevent Blindness Rising Visionary Award**

**Application Information**

**Prevent Blindness Rising Visionary Award:**

The Prevent Blindness Rising Visionary Awardis presented annually to a student or resident in a health-related field who submits the best overall application and essay addressing the 2023 Focus on Eye Health Summit theme: ***Why the Eye?*** This esteemed award consists of formal acknowledgement and a commemorative plaque to be presented at the [Focus on Eye Health Summit](http://www.preventblindness.org/eyesummit) virtually on July 12th or 13th, 2023. The awardee will also be invited to present their essay and related work as a Summit speaker. 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, intern, or resident located in the United States in one of the following fields of study: optometry, ophthalmology, primary health care, nursing, or other health-related field. The awardee must be available to present virtually at the 2023 Focus on Eye Health Summit on July 12thor July 13th, 2023.

**Submission Requirements:**

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

* **Application Cover Sheet:** The essaymust be submitted with an application cover sheet (template included in this application packet).
* **Essay**: 500-word essay answering the following topic:

***Topic****: Identify a public health opportunity to advance vision and eye health in the United States through public health policy, practice, or research. Respond to each section below separately with clearly defined sections.*

1. Describe the opportunity for vision and eye health and clearly articulate the avenue for advancement (public health policy, practice, or research) (100 words)
2. How will the identified opportunity positively impact vision and eye health in the U.S.? (250 words)
3. Explain the systems or processes that will need to change for the impact to be fully realized. (150 words)
* **Curriculum Vitae and Personal Statement**: Submit a one-page curriculum vitae containing higher educational accomplishments, work experience, honors, professional memberships, and other related experience. Please include a 200-word personal statement describing the relevant academic, experiential, and leadership training that prepared you for this essay. [Click here for an example](https://preventblindness.org/wp-content/uploads/2022/12/2023-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 in your 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 12th annual [Focus on Eye Health Summit](https://www.preventblindness.org/eyesummit) as a virtual interactive event on July 12th-13th, 2023. The Focus on Eye Health 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.

**2023 Prevent Blindness Rising Visionary Award**

**Application Cover Sheet**

**APPLICANT INFORMATION**

Name:

Title:

Training program:

Preferred mailing address:

Email:

Telephone:

If selected, are you available to speak virtually at the 2023 Focus on Eye Health Summit on July 12th or 13th, 2023?

[ ]  **YES**

[ ]  **NO**

How did you hear about the 2023 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** (not exceeding 500 words)

[ ]  **Curriculum Vitae and Personal Statement** (1 page)

[ ]  **Letters of Recommendation** (up to two)

**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 “2023 Prevent Blindness Rising Visionary Award” to Nita Sinha, Director of Public Health at** **npatelsinha@preventblindness.org** **by Friday, February 3rd, 2023 at noon ET.**