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## Eye-Bank grants available to vision researchers

CLARK – The Lions Eye Bank of New Jersey invites researchers working with academic institutions throughout New Jersey to submit grant proposals to Midwest Eye-Banks' Eye and Vision Research Program.

Since its inception in 1980, the program has provided nearly \$3 million in seed money to researchers investigating the causes of and cures for blinding eye conditions.

"Midwest Eye-Banks is one of the few organizations of its kind that provides substantial funding for eye and vision research," explains Charles Pivoney, Chief Operating Officer. "Eye banks are nonprofit organizations that primarily recover, evaluate and distribute eye tissue for transplantation. However, we know transplantation can only address about 10 percent of all blinding eye conditions. That's why we go a step farther with our Eye and Vision Research Program, which enables us to fight blindness on all fronts."

Grant proposals are evaluated by the Eye-Banks' Research Review Committee, a volunteer panel of distinguished researchers who specialize in eye and vision-related study. For more information about the program, as well as application materials, visit [www.midwesteyebanks.org](http://www.midwesteyebanks.org) > Communities > Researchers. Student stipends are also available to qualified student researchers. **Proposals are due by March 4<sup>th</sup>, 2011 at 5pm.**

The Lions Eye Bank of New Jersey, a subsidiary of Midwest Eye-Banks, is a charitable, not-for-profit organization dedicated to the restoration of sight. It recovers, evaluates and distributes human eye tissue for transplantation. It also supports research into the causes and cures of blinding eye conditions, promotes donation awareness through public and professional education, and provides humanitarian aid to people in need of corneal transplantation throughout the world. For more information, visit the Lions Eye Bank of New Jersey online at [www.lionseyebanknj.org](http://www.lionseyebanknj.org) or call (800) 653-9379.

