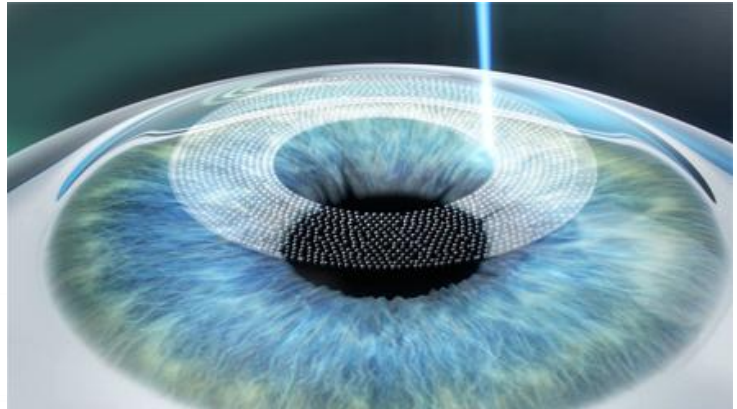


## Is LASIK Right for You?

Lasik (Laser-Assisted in situ Keratomileusis) is a surgical procedure designed to reduce or eliminate your need for eye glasses and contact lenses. It is a refractive surgery that reshapes the cornea in order to reduce refractive errors including: myopia (nearsightedness), hyperopia (farsightedness), and astigmatism.



A flap is formed with the front surface of the cornea in order to expose the inner layers of the cornea. A laser is then used to reshape the cornea underneath the flap. Once the cornea is treated, the flap is replaced and the refractive error is significantly reduced.

Many people experience a tremendous, positive life change after undergoing LASIK surgery, but who is the ideal candidate?

The criteria for the ideal LASIK patient includes:

- Individuals over 21 years of age
- Individuals with healthy corneas and relatively stable prescriptions
- Individuals who have a reasonable understanding of the risks and rewards from LASIK

### **Bladeless LASIK**

Here at Michiana Eye Center, our eye surgeons perform an **all** laser, femto-second custom procedure that is not only faster than older methods, but also extremely precise.

The Ziemer femto-second laser uses direct, rapid pulses of infrared light to create a lattice of tiny puzzle-piece like bubbles around the outside of the cornea, separating the first two layers of the cornea from the remaining corneal bed. Unlike using a microkeratome blade (the traditional method) to create the flap, the z-Lasik method is much more precise and has far less complications.



ziemer   
FEMTO LDV™  
FEMTOSECOND SURGICAL LASER

Using a Custom Wavefront Map of your cornea, the STAR S4 IR Excimer Laser reshapes the entire front surface of the cornea. Just as no two finger prints are alike, no two corneal prints are alike. Using the custom Lasik method our surgeons are able to design a treatment that is uniquely tailored to the specifications of each patient individually enabling you to return to your natural ability to see clearly. Many custom Lasik patients notice a decrease in glare and “halos” commonly associated with night driving.

## Frequently Asked Questions:

### 1. Does insurance cover LASIK?

Some insurance plans offer a discount towards the LASIK but there are none that cover it completely. Check your plan to see if you have a discount available to you.

### 2. Will I ever have to wear glasses again after LASIK?

In most cases patients are able to see at distance with no glasses. Some patients may have a slight need for a small prescription in certain situations like driving at night in an unfamiliar area or watching a football game from the top of the arena.

### 3. Does LASIK correct the need for bifocals?

No. The need for a bifocal happens because of aging changes in the lens of the eye. LASIK will not prevent this aging change. Everyone, depending on how their eyes age, will need bifocals at some point in their life, usually in their 40's or 50's.

### 4. When do I need to stop wearing my contact lenses?

Contact lenses should be discontinued at least two weeks prior to the exam with the ophthalmologist and then kept out of the eyes up through the surgery date. This allows the doctor to make the surgical measurements when the cornea is in its most natural state.

### 5. I was told that my corneas are too thin for LASIK so I will need PRK. What does this mean?

When a patient has LASIK, a flap is made in the cornea and the treatment is made to the middle layer of the cornea and then the flap is laid back down. This allows the patient to have good usable vision right away and minimal discomfort. When a patient has corneas that are too thin for LASIK in some cases a surface treatment called PRK (photo refractive keratectomy) can be performed to the outermost layer of the cornea. The end point is the same as LASIK, less prescription and better uncorrected vision, but there is some initial discomfort and blurry vision while the epithelium of the cornea heals.

Michiana Eye Center offers free LASIK consultations so that you will know within minutes whether this procedure is right for you. During the evaluation we will answer any questions you may have and discuss your post-surgery expectations.

**To schedule a LASIK consultation, or for any other LASIK questions that you might have, please give us a call at (574) 271-3939, or visit our website at [www.michianaeye.com](http://www.michianaeye.com)**