New York LASIK Cost

How Much Does New York LASIK Cost?

When you’re shopping for LASIK, it’s natural to compare providers based on the price. But the price is not the only thing to consider. Is all LASIK the same? The answer is definitely NO! So, what you should be looking for? Which factors are the most important? How should you decide?

Before making your decision based on New York LASIK cost alone, arm yourself with the facts and make sure you are comparing apples with apples. You’ll have to live with the surgery results, good or bad, for the rest of your life, so it’s important to make a smart decision.

Here are the most critical factors to think about in order of their importance:

#1: The Surgeon

The surgeon’s skill level and experience is the biggest contributing factor to the success of your surgery and to your overall satisfaction. The job of the surgeon is not limited to the surgical procedure itself. The surgeon makes decisions regarding the exact type of the procedure, the safety of the procedure for each individual person, and the equipment that will deliver the sharpest vision in the safest manner. He will also need to discuss with you what you should expect after the surgery. Look for a surgeon who is a “fellowship trained cornea specialist”.

This is where you’ll need to be cautious. Many ophthalmologists will claim to be “cornea”, “refractive” or “LASIK” specialists when, in reality, they have had no formal cornea fellowship training whatsoever. Ask this question when making an appointment: “Does the Doctor perform corneal transplant procedures?” Cornea transplants define a cornea specialist – if your surgeon doesn’t do them, then he/she is NOT a cornea specialist.

Having LASIK done by a genuine cornea specialist will add to your New York LASIK cost, but will ultimately pay off in better visual results and safety. Cornea specialists who perform LASIK surgery excel at determining who is and is not a good LASIK candidate, reducing the chances of LASIK complications. An inexperienced LASIK surgeon is not a bargain. If you can’t afford the best available surgeon, the smart decision may be to put off LASIK surgery until you can.

#2: Technology

LASIK technology has changed significantly over the past 10 years. There are three main laser platform technologies and each carries with it specific risks and benefits. The laser technology you and your surgeon select will affect your New York LASIK cost, but it is something you should carefully consider. Taking a big risk with your eyesight just to save money is not a wise choice.
Allegretto WaveLight – This is the newest laser on the market and it has advanced features that improve treatment for astigmatism and minimize glare and haloes in higher prescriptions. It is the leader of the pack. (This is the laser that Dr. Cohen uses in more than 90% of his cases.) It is designed to preserve your cornea’s aspheric shape in a way that older lasers cannot. This state-of-the-art technology may increase your New York LASIK cost, but your vision will reap the rewards from its exceptional precision. The Allegretto WaveLight laser is the fastest and most accurate LASIK system available in the U.S. today.

VISX S4 – This is the most commonly-used laser machine in the USA. It is 15-year-old technology that has undergone a series of upgrades in the last few years. (Think of it as upgrading the CPU, the memory and other features on your old desktop PC.) It’s a good laser, but has limited success in treatment of astigmatism and may induce glare and haloes when not in the “wavefront” mode (which cannot be used in all patients). It is the laser of choice for patients with certain rare corneal conditions (e.g., PTK, or phototherapeutic keratectomy, for recurrent corneal erosion, etc.).

Nidek Laser – This laser is the cheapest choice since it has no click fee (the fee that must be paid to the laser manufacturer for each use of the laser) and is also significantly less costly to buy. The results of the treatment can vary from person to person and, overall, are not as accurate due to the age of this technology.

#3: Type of Procedure: LASIK/IntraLASIK/PRK

Depending on the exact type of procedure you need, some factors may add to your New York LASIK cost (like an additional laser machine for IntraLASIK). Each type of procedure is slightly different and best-suited to certain patients, and costs will vary between them. Your LASIK surgeon will explain the procedures; be sure you understand your options and the reasons why your doctor is recommending one procedure over another.

So, how much does New York LASIK cost?

New York LASIK cost and costs in the greater Tri-state area generally vary between $1,000 and $3,000 per eye, depending on all of the factors mentioned above. According to the research firm Market Scope, the average price for LASIK in 2012 in the U.S. is about $1,950 per eye.

How much does Dr. Cohen charge for LASIK? On average, our price is between $2,250 and $2,750 per eye. This price includes all pre-op testing and all of the office visits before and after the procedure. We offer financing and you can use your flexible spending dollars towards the cost of the procedure. Keep in mind that New York LASIK cost is lower than what you would spend over time on contact lenses, glasses, and eye exams when the procedure is properly done.

I often see offers like $499/eye? Can those prices be true?

No. No one can offer you LASIK or a similar refractive procedure for that price. The reason is simple: $499 is below what it actually costs the doctor to perform the LASIK surgery. Discount or “cheap LASIK” centers sometimes offer LASIK at misleadingly low prices but, in the end, your New York LASIK cost will be much higher than the advertised price. These offers are only “bait and switch” tactics to lure you in to inexperienced and/or unaccomplished surgeons. Once they have you interested, you will find out the real price.
Will my health insurance cover LASIK?

Only a few health insurance plans will cover your LASIK surgery fully as a benefit. However, many vision plans will give you a significant discount toward the procedure. Please talk to our surgical coordinator to get more information about your specific insurance plan and what you can expect. We will explain your insurance coverage and your payment options to help you with your New York LASIK cost.

If you have any questions at all about New York LASIK cost or simply want to learn more about LASIK and other laser vision correction options in Manhattan, Glendale NY, the greater New York area, or Old Bridge, New Jersey and surrounding cities, we welcome you to email us, call (212) 764-2020 or (866) 731-3937, or visit us in person.

Schedule a FREE Consultation!