

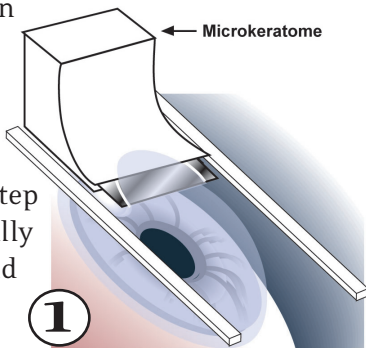
From TLC Laser Eye centers:

# Bladeless LASIK

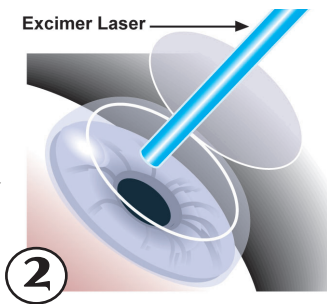
Bladeless LASIK, using the IntraLase® laser, is the first blade-free laser technology for performing the critical first step of the LASIK procedure: creating the corneal flap. This new technology replaces the hand-held microkeratome blade with the computer-guided precision of a laser for an all-laser LASIK procedure.

## conventional LASIK PROCESS

There are two steps to the LASIK procedure. First, the surgeon cuts a flap of corneal tissue. Prior to using the IntraLase® laser, this first step was done manually using a hand-held device called a microkeratome.



The flap is then lifted to expose the inner cornea for the second step: vision treatment by the excimer laser.



**TLC**  
Laser Eye Centers®

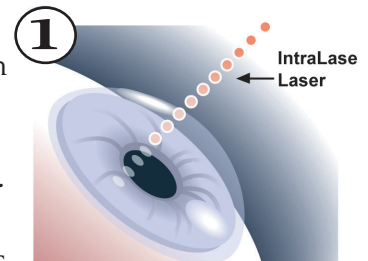
*Feel the Difference. See the Results.™*

## Bladeless LASIK PROCESS

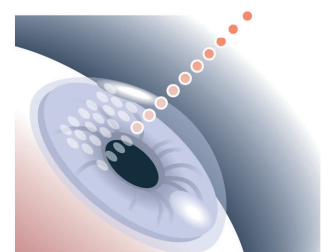
The IntraLase® laser uses an infrared beam of light to create the flap from below the surface of the cornea using an “inside-out” process.

### STEP ONE TOTAL TIME: 45 SECONDS

The beam of laser light is focused to a precise point within the stroma (central layer of the cornea), where a string of microscopic bubbles is formed.



Thousands of these tiny bubbles are precisely positioned to define the flap's dimensions and distinct beveled edge, as well as location of the hinge. Bubbles are then stacked along the edge of the flap up to the corneal surface to complete the flap.



The flap is then lifted to allow for the excimer vision treatment. When completed, the flap is accurately repositioned, thanks to its beveled edge.

