

# CHOOSING THE RIGHT PEDIATRICIAN

## Selecting a health care provider for your child is a big decision

Just as it's important to have the right care team throughout your pregnancy, you want to make sure you have the right health care providers for your child.

### What's a pediatrician?

A pediatrician is a doctor trained to treat a wide range of childhood illnesses, from minor health problems to serious diseases. They play an important role in the health and well-being of your child. This includes tracking your child's growth and development as well as making sure they get necessary vaccines and other preventive care.



## Here are some questions to ask prospective pediatric health care providers

You can find a lot of this information in our Provider Finder, on the provider's website or by asking them directly.

- Are you certified by the American Board of Pediatrics (ABP)?
- Are you a family physician? If so, are you certified by the American Board of Family Medicine (ABFM)?
- If you're a pediatric nurse practitioner, what are your credentials?
- Do you have any specialists on staff?
- How long have you been practicing?
- Are you part of a group practice?
- How long does an average checkup last?
- What are your office hours?
- Are you on call outside of normal office hours?
- Are you available for virtual visits?
- Are you affiliated with a specific hospital?



### Find a pediatrician

Since it can take a little time to choose a pediatrician that's right for you, we recommend getting started as early as possible. Ask friends, family and, if you're pregnant, your maternal care provider for recommendations. Find in-network pediatricians near you at [fepblue.org/provider](https://fepblue.org/provider) or by searching the [fepblue](#) app.