CHOOSING THE RIGHT PEDIATRICIAN

BlueCross
BlueShield
Federal Employee Program

fepblue.org

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 who treats newborns, children, adolescents and young adults. 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

- 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 special training?

- Do you have any specialists on staff?

- How long have you been practicing?

- What is your philosophy about childcare?

- Do you have any children yourself?

- Are you part of a group practice?

- How long does an average checkup last?

- What are your office hours?

- How do you handle emergencies? Are you on call outside of normal office hours?

- Do you make house calls or allow 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** or by searching the **fepblue** app.

SBPHEMCT2024