



About Certification and MOC

CERTIFICATION

Board certification is a voluntary process that goes above and beyond state licensing requirements for practicing medicine. Not all pediatricians are board certified. Certification by the American Board of Pediatrics (ABP) represents dedication to the highest level of professionalism in patient care and provides a standard of excellence by which the public can select pediatricians and pediatric subspecialists.

The ABP awards certificates in General Pediatrics and 15 pediatric subspecialty areas. To become certified, physicians must graduate from medical school, complete a three-year pediatric training program, be deemed competent by their training program director, and pass a rigorous ABP exam.

The six core competencies adopted by the American Board of Medical Specialties and the Accreditation Council for Graduate Medical Education are:

1. Patient Care
2. Medical Knowledge
3. Practice-based Learning and Improvement
4. Interpersonal and Communication Skills
5. Professionalism
6. Systems-based Practice

MAINTENANCE OF CERTIFICATION (MOC)

After pediatricians are certified, they continue to demonstrate learning through a formal Maintenance of Certification (MOC) program where they pursue the improvement of health care for children and demonstrate their advanced knowledge and commitment to lifelong learning by meeting the following requirements.

PART 1: Professional Standing

Pediatricians hold valid, unrestricted medical licensure.

PART 2: Self-Assessment

Pediatricians assess and enhance knowledge in areas important to their practice using activities developed by the ABP and other organizations.

PART 3: Exam

Pediatricians pass an examination (continuous assessment or traditional exam) on a regular schedule for each certification.

PART 4: Quality Improvement

Pediatricians participate in approved quality improvement projects designed to assess and improve the quality of patient care.