1. How does the program work?

Participants will identify a preceptor who must be approved by CPEP and the ABP. The preceptor will contract with CPEP to observe the participant’s practice, review charts, and provide feedback to CPEP. Participants will complete knowledge assessments, maintain study logs, and review core knowledge in general pediatrics. CPEP will review the preceptor reports, chart reviews, written knowledge assessments, and other relevant information about the participant, and will provide periodic feedback. At the end of the program, CPEP will provide a recommendation to the ABP regarding the participant’s performance.

2. What is required to be a preceptor?

Preceptors must be certified by the American Board of Pediatrics in general pediatrics and must meet the requirements for Maintenance of Certification throughout the time serving as a preceptor and have no professionalism issues or performance concerns.

3. What are the responsibilities of the preceptor?

Preceptors are engaged to observe the participant’s direct patient care in daily practice and to provide an independent assessment to CPEP of the participant’s contemporary competence to practice pediatrics without supervision.

4. How long will it take to complete the program? Are there factors (part-time work, solo practice, etc.) that will impact the length of the experience?

The entire program takes an average of six to nine months to complete. CPEP will provide individuals with additional information on the duration of the program once a plan is established.

5. What do I need to do to initiate the process?

Candidates interested in completing the Preceptor/CPEP pathway should contact CPEP at info@cpepdoc.org or 303-577-3232 to begin the process.

6. What information must I provide to CPEP?

The participant must provide copies of score reports for all attempts on the General Pediatrics Certifying Examination. Copies of score reports for exams since 2004 are available in the ABP Portfolio.

7. Do I need to notify the ABP I am participating in CPEP?

The participant is establishing an agreement with CPEP and not the ABP; therefore, the participant must contact CPEP first after identifying a preceptor. The preceptor’s credentials will require review and approval by CPEP. If the preceptor is approved by CPEP, CPEP will notify the ABP of the approval. The ABP will then conduct its review of the participant’s and preceptor’s credentials and notify CPEP of the outcome of the review. This will be the only engagement the ABP will have with CPEP during the observation process.

8. May I remain in my home practice and complete CPEP?

Yes, participants may remain in their home practice if a preceptor is identified who can observe the practice at that site and who is approved by the ABP and CPEP.
9. I work in a rural setting/solo practice. Is this program still available to me?
   The program is available, providing the participant can identify a preceptor to observe the practice.

10. May I complete CPEP outside of the United States or Canada?
    No, CPEP must be completed in the United States or Canada.

11. May I apply for the general pediatrics certifying exam pending completion of the program?
    Yes, but to be approved for the exam, participants must complete the CPEP program in time for the ABP to process CPEP’s assessment of your performance.

12. Am I board eligible if CPEP states I successfully completed its program?
    Board eligibility status is conferred by the ABP after it reviews the CPEP assessment and ensures that a participant has met all requirements. To reinstate a participant’s board eligibility, the ABP requires the participant to:
    • Apply for the General Pediatrics Certifying Examination;
    • Undergo the credentialing process;
    • Meet all exam admission requirements; and
    • Satisfy the time-limited eligibility requirements.

    If the participant meets all requirements for certification, the exam application will be accepted, and the participant will be eligible for certification for seven years from the year the CPEP program was completed.

13. Once I regain eligibility, how long will I have to become certified?
    An individual has seven years from the year of the successful completion of the CPEP program to achieve certification or the time limit will expire. For example, if the CPEP program was successfully completed in 2023, the final date to achieve certification will be December 31, 2030.

14. If I do not become certified within the seven years after completion of the CPEP program, how do I regain eligibility?
    The current policy states that Preceptor/CPEP Pathway participants who do not become certified within seven years must enter an accredited general pediatrics residency and satisfactorily complete three additional years of training.

15. What is the fee to enroll in CPEP?
    CPEP charges $13,500* for participation in the program. The participant must pay the fee directly to CPEP. The ABP does not charge a fee nor collect the fee. CPEP is a separate organization with no financial relationship to ABP, and CPEP establishes the fees. The ABP does not have any role in determining fees charged by CPEP, nor does the ABP receive any financial benefit from CPEP or participants in the program. Any compensation required by a preceptor is in addition to the $13,500.

    *Cost as of April 2022. Cost may vary over time.
16. How do I submit the fee to CPEP?

If, after discussion with CPEP, an individual decides to participate in the program, CPEP will provide the individual with enrollment information and payment instructions.

17. Is the CPEP fee refundable if I am unable to complete the program?

Participant fees are nonrefundable once the participant has enrolled in the Preceptor/CPEP Pathway and completed the initial evaluation. CPEP will provide a refund only if the preceptor cannot continue and a replacement cannot be found after the participant has made a good faith effort as determined by CPEP. In such a case, CPEP will terminate the individual’s participation and provide a partial refund.

18. Am I required to pay my preceptor?

This is a decision between the participant and the preceptor. Participants may discuss with CPEP if payment is recommended or required for the preceptor. Any preceptor payments would be in addition to the CPEP fee for participation in this pathway.

19. May I participate in CPEP more than one time if I do not achieve certification within seven years after regaining eligibility for general pediatrics certification?

No, Preceptor/CPEP Pathway participants who are unsuccessful in becoming certified during the additional seven years of eligibility must enter an accredited general pediatrics residency program and complete three years of training in order to regain eligibility.