

## **PEDIATRIC PHARMACY FACT SHEET**

**Pediatric Pharmacy** ensures safe and effective drug use and optimal medication therapy outcomes in children up to 18 years of age. Currently there are more than 1,450 BPS Board Certified Pediatric Pharmacists.

The **BPS Board Certified Pediatric Pharmacist® (BCPP)**:

- Has the advanced knowledge and expertise to provide direct patient care to children, including providing alternative dosage forms and specialized drug therapy monitoring required for pediatric patients;
- Advocates for and educates children and their families; and
- Promotes wellness, health and other activities that advance knowledge and skills in pediatric pharmacy.

**To become a BPS Board Certified Pediatric Pharmacist®, a pharmacist must:**

- Graduate from a pharmacy program accredited by the [Accreditation Council for Pharmacy Education](#) (ACPE) or a program outside of the U.S. that qualifies the individual to practice in that jurisdiction; **and**
- Maintain a current, active license to practice pharmacy in the U.S. or another jurisdiction; **and**
- Complete four (4) years of post-licensure practice, with at least fifty percent (50%) of time spent in pediatric care pharmacy activities as defined by the [BPS Pediatric Pharmacy Specialty Content Outline](#); **or**
- Complete a PGY1 residency in Pediatric Pharmacy accredited by the [American Society of Health-System Pharmacists](#) (ASHP) plus two (2) additional years of post-licensure practice, with at least fifty percent (50%) of time spent in pediatric pharmacy activities as defined by the [BPS Pediatric Pharmacy Specialty Content Outline](#); **or**
- Complete an ASHP-accredited PGY2 residency in Pediatric Pharmacy; **and**
- Achieve a passing score on the BPS Pediatric Pharmacy Certification Examination.

**Recertification is required every seven years and can be accomplished by:**

- Achieving a passing score on the BPS Pediatric Pharmacy Recertification Examination; **or**
- Earning 100 hours of continuing education credit provided by the professional development programs offered by the [American College of Clinical Pharmacy](#) (ACCP) and/or the [American Society of Health-System Pharmacists](#) (ASHP) and/or the [Pediatric Pharmacy Advocacy Group](#) (PPAG).

*Pediatric Pharmacy Preparatory Review and Recertification Courses offered by any of the approved providers may only be completed for recertification credit up to two times, in nonconsecutive years, during the 7-year recertification cycle.*

**Becoming BPS board certified enables pharmacists to:**

- Provide more comprehensive and complex patient care;
- Be prepared to step into pharmacy's evolving position on the multidisciplinary treatment team;
- Experience increased recognition by other healthcare professionals, employers, patients and insurers; and
- Improve their standing in a competitive employment market.

Board certification through the [Board of Pharmacy Specialties](#)<sup>®</sup> is the gold standard for determining which pharmacists are qualified to contribute at advanced practice levels. Through the rigorous examination standards mandated by the [Board of Pharmacy Specialties](#)<sup>®</sup>, the BPS board certified pharmacist is uniquely trained and educated to meet the continually expanding expectations of other healthcare team members and the specialized needs of the patients they serve.