



# Your child deserves a pediatric nurse!



Do you know who your child's nursing experts are? What are the letters behind their names? Pediatric nursing professionals have specialized experience to provide optimal care for children and teens in sickness or health. Meet them today!

## WHAT ARE ALL THOSE LETTERS?



<b>WHAT THEY CAN DO</b>	<p><b>Registered nurses can provide direct care for children and:</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>&gt; Gather patient information like vital signs and symptoms</li> <li>&gt; Assess conditions or injuries</li> <li>&gt; Administer medication</li> <li>&gt; Monitor recovery in a hospital</li> <li>&gt; Educate children and families on health</li> </ul>
<b>EDUCATION</b>	<p>Can have a nursing diploma, associate's degree, bachelor's or above.</p>
<b>LICENSURE</b>	<p>Must pass a national exam to be licensed as an RN by their state.</p> <p>Pediatric nursing skills are then learned on the job and through employer training.</p>
<b>CERTIFICATION</b>	<p>RNs can get board certified in pediatrics after about 2 years of work experience. Examples include but aren't limited to:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>&gt; CPN: Certified Pediatric Nurse</li> <li>&gt; NCSN: Nationally Certified School Nurse</li> <li>&gt; CCRN-Pediatric: Critical Care Certified RN</li> </ul>

<b>WHAT THEY CAN DO</b>	<p><b>Pediatric nurse practitioners provide advanced care to promote optimal physical and emotional well-being. They can:</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>&gt; Diagnose</li> <li>&gt; Treat and manage care</li> <li>&gt; Prescribe</li> <li>&gt; Order tests</li> <li>&gt; Make referrals</li> </ul>
<b>EDUCATION</b>	<p>Must have specialized graduate education at the master's or doctoral degree level.</p>
<b>LICENSURE</b>	<p>Must pass a national certification board exam to be licensed to practice as a PNP in most states.</p>
<b>CERTIFICATION</b>	<p>PNPs take a national board exam to become certified, such as:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>&gt; CPNP-PC: Certified Pediatric Nurse Practitioner in Primary Care</li> <li>&gt; CPNP-AC: Certified Pediatric Nurse Practitioner in Acute Care</li> </ul>

<b>WHAT THEY CAN DO</b>	<p><b>Clinical nurse specialists provide advanced care and create efficiencies in patient care. They can:</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>&gt; Treat and manage care</li> <li>&gt; Impact patient care outcomes through consultations</li> <li>&gt; Make improvements in health care delivery</li> </ul>
<b>EDUCATION</b>	<p>Must have specialized graduate education at the master's or doctoral degree level.</p>
<b>LICENSURE</b>	<p>Must pass a national certification board exam to be licensed to practice as a CNS in most states.</p>
<b>CERTIFICATION</b>	<p>CNSs take a national board exam to become certified, such as:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>&gt; Pediatric CNS</li> <li>&gt; Child/Adolescent Psych &amp; Mental Health CNS</li> </ul>

## ASK A PEDIATRIC NURSE.

A pediatric nursing professional should introduce themselves and make your child feel at ease during the interaction.

Always feel comfortable asking the nurse about their role in your child's care.

Should you have care questions, please ask! Especially about:

- > Medication
- > Hospital or surgery discharge instructions
- > When to call your child's healthcare provider
- > Behavioral or mental health concerns

Family-centered care is a big part of nursing, and you are your child's best advocate!

## DID YOU KNOW?

Pediatric nurses work in many different places like home health, schools, camps, and outpatient clinics.

To stay certified and licensed, pediatric nursing professionals show evidence of continuing education.

PNPs and CNSs provide care for birth through age 21. In certain situations (like cystic fibrosis), they may be able to provide care beyond age 21 until successful transition to adult health care providers. State boards of nursing regulate age ranges.<sup>1</sup>



<sup>1</sup> Pediatric Nursing Certification Board website: <https://www.pncb.org/age-parameters>



[pncb.org](http://pncb.org)

Originally created for the Institute of Pediatric Nursing (IPN)

Using pediatric nursing expertise to improve the health and well-being of children and families.