A pediatrician is concerned with the physical, emotional, and social health of children from birth to young adulthood. Care encompasses a broad spectrum of health services ranging from preventive health care to the diagnosis and treatment of acute and chronic diseases. The pediatrician deals with biological, social, and environmental influences on the developing child, and with the impact of disease and dysfunction on development.¹

Pediatricians can receive training in the following subspecialties:

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Pediatric Medicine</th>
<th>Subspecialties</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>adolescent medicine</td>
<td>• pediatric gastroenterology</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>developmental-behavioral pediatrics</td>
<td>• pediatric hematology-oncology</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>hospice and palliative medicine</td>
<td>• pediatric infectious diseases</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>medical toxicology</td>
<td>• pediatric nephrology</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>neonatal-perinatal medicine</td>
<td>• pediatric pulmonology</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>neurodevelopmental disabilities</td>
<td>• pediatric rheumatology</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>pediatric cardiology</td>
<td>• pediatric sports medicine</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>pediatric critical care medicine</td>
<td>• pediatric transplant hepatology</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>pediatric emergency medicine</td>
<td>• sleep medicine</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>pediatric endocrinology</td>
<td></td>
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</tbody>
</table>

Training/Residency

After 4 years of medical school, the 3-year residency in pediatric training includes mandated rotations in general pediatrics, normal newborn care, and time in selected subspecialty areas. Up to 3 additional years of training are required to be certified in a subspecialty.

AOA residency training opportunities are listed here: [http://opportunities.osteopathic.org/index.htm](http://opportunities.osteopathic.org/index.htm)

Statewide Campus System (SCS)

The (SCS) is made up of 46 training hospitals and 31 FQHCs in Michigan. There are 222 approved postdoctoral training programs representing 46 specialties throughout the state. Michigan currently has 34 Pediatric residents training in 4 osteopathic Peds programs (2013). More information about these programs can be found at: [http://scs.msu.edu](http://scs.msu.edu)

Salary Information

According to Salary.com the average annual salary for a Pediatrics Physician in Michigan ranges from approximately $123,000–$219,000+.²


For more information about the specialty

- American College of Osteopathic Pediatricians ([www.acoped.org](http://www.acoped.org))
- American Academy of Pediatrics ([www.aap.org](http://www.aap.org))
- American Board of Pediatrics ([www.abp.org](http://www.abp.org))

References

1 The American Board of Medical Specialties. Guide to Physician Specialties. Evanston, IL: American Board of Medical Specialties; February 2008: Accessed via AAMC: [https://www.aamc.org/students/medstudents/cim/specialties/](https://www.aamc.org/students/medstudents/cim/specialties/)
2 Information link to a salary search performed on [www.salary.com](http://www.salary.com)
Sample Questions to Ask When Exploring A Career in Pediatrics

- How much time do you spend providing inpatient care vs. outpatient care?
- How much time do you spend doing chart documentation and other patient paperwork (insurance requests, prescription refills, etc.)?
- Which journals do you read regularly?
- Do you sub-specialize?
- Are you actively involved in research? How much time do you spend in research activities?
- What is a typical day like for you as a pediatrician?
- Do you practice OMT with your patients? If so, about what percentage of your patients do you practice OMT on? Is it more at the request of the patient (family), or your suggestion?
- Do you work in a rural or urban area? What are the pros & cons of practicing in this type of community?
- How has your job changed over the past 5 years?
- What are the most frequent types of cases you see on a daily basis?
- How often are you on-call?
- How many patients do you usually see in a day or a week?
- How many hours a week do you actually work? What are your feelings on work-life balance for a pediatrician?
- How do you feel about working with different age ranges? Do you have a preference?
- How much time do you spend providing diagnostic care vs. doing in-office procedures? What types of procedures do you perform most often?
- How much business knowledge do you use as a pediatrician?
- What kind of employment model do you work in (e.g. solo practice, group practice, private practice, hospital employed, etc.)? What do you consider to be the pros and cons of these models?
- How much professional liability insurance does a pediatrician need to carry? About how much does that cost annually?