

FAQs – ACA Chiropractic Council on Pediatrics 300-Hour Diplomate Program

What is the 300-hour hybrid ACA Chiropractic Council on Pediatrics Diplomate program?

This program blends online and in-person education. It includes four sections made up of multiple online units and two in-person intensives. Each unit includes a brief assessment to ensure participants are progressing before attending the intensives. All coursework and assessments align with the meta competencies of the certified pediatric chiropractic specialist referenced in Hewitt et al., 2016.

What are the core competencies of the certified pediatric chiropractic specialist?

The full list of competencies is outlined in the following article: Hewitt E, Hestbaek L, Pohlman KA. [Core competencies of the certified pediatric doctor of chiropractic: results of a Delphi consensus process](#). Journal of Evidence-Based Complementary and Alternative Medicine. 2016;21(2):110-4.

Why would I need pediatric-specific training?

Pediatric care requires advanced, focused training. This program provides 300 additional hours of pediatric education to help you better serve your community. You will study normal developmental milestones from birth through age sixteen and explore chiropractic and integrative treatment strategies to support young patients.

What are the topics of the four sections of coursework?

Section 1 covers growth and development (competencies 1, 3, 6*).

Section 2 covers differential diagnosis (competencies 2, 4*).

Section 3 covers evidence (competency 5*).

Section 4 covers essentials in pediatric practice (competencies 7, 8, 9*).

When can I access the coursework?

New coursework is published on the Learn ACA platform each month. The next cohort is open for registration. You can complete the program in as few as 17 months, with a maximum of 24 months.

How long will it take me to complete the program?

You may finish the coursework in 17 to 24 months, depending on your pace. The program is designed to be flexible so you can fit it into your schedule.

I've completed the coursework. What should I do next?

Congratulations, you deserve a huge pat on the back! Your final step towards Diplomate status is taking (and passing!) the Board Exam offered through the American Board on Chiropractic Pediatrics (A.B.C.P.)

Once credentialed, Diplomates will be required to renew their credentials every 2 years. Requirements for renewal include: 24 hours of CE specific to pediatrics and a contribution to the advancement of the profession. This requirement includes but is not limited to contributing to research as a study participant or by submitting a case for publication; teaching continuing education; or providing community education in your area. The continuing education credits do not



**COUNCIL ON
CHIROPRACTIC
PEDIATRICS**

need to be presented by a particular organization, though an audit may be performed to ensure the hours are pediatric-specific. We encourage diplomates to seek out high-quality evidence-based pediatric continuing education hours as well. The current recertification fee is 150 dollars every two years.

CPR and First Aid are required parts of the program. Can I submit documentation for a class I completed locally?

Yes, you are encouraged to take (or renew) CPR/First Aid class with your local Red Cross or American Heart Association chapter. During that portion of the coursework, you will be prompted to upload confirmation of your current certificate to fulfill that requirement.

When and where will the two in-person intensive sessions be held?

Your time and travel dollars are precious, and the ACA Council on Chiropractic Pediatrics has created a hybrid program to honor that! Two required in-person intensives are scheduled for the cohort:

Intensive 1

October 9–11, 2026

Northeast College of Health Sciences, Long Island Branch Campus

70 Division Ave

Levittown, NY 11756

Intensive 2

April 17–18, 2027

Location: Florida (subject to change with advance notice)

What should I expect at the in-person intensive sessions?

Expect a hands-on, immersive experience. The sessions will walk you through how to adapt adjusting techniques from infancy through adolescence, with demonstrations and guided discussions. You will learn to recognize red flags, understand key concepts in biomechanics and pathobiomechanics for infants and young children, and apply both kinetic and static palpation in practice. There will be time to workshop different approaches to care so you can build confidence in your clinical reasoning and technique.

The intensives will also cover extremity adjusting with attention to injury patterns, genetic factors, and conditions commonly seen in practice. Cranial therapy will be taught through demonstration and structured instruction, with a focus on presentations unique to infants and children.

Proficiency checks will take place during or at the end of each session to ensure you are meeting the required skill level.

How do I connect with my instructors and learning cohort?

We value learning and know that learning within a community is important! This hybrid program is enhanced with Virtual Grand Rounds, led by instructors and focused on the questions from your learning cohort. These sessions will be held multiple times a year, schedule TBD.



What is synchronous versus asynchronous learning?

Synchronous learning occurs in real time, with everyone meeting at a set, scheduled time. This means students are learning simultaneously, and it can be done in a virtual setting or in-person. The key to synchronous learning is that learning is happening simultaneously for the students in the class.

Asynchronous learning allows students to access materials at their own pace and interact with each other over longer periods.

What is the tuition investment? Is there a discounted rate for ACA CCP members?

ACA Council on Chiropractic Pediatrics members, students, and faculty receive discounted tuition. Full details are available through the ACA Education Staff.

Can I pay in installments?

Yes. A four-part installment plan is available with a 5 percent administrative fee. Registration for cohort 3 is now open. For questions, contact education@acatoday.org.

I'm still a student. Can I take the course?

Yes. Students are eligible once they reach Trimester 6 or have completed anatomy, biochemistry, and hands-on technique coursework.

I'm a practicing DC. Can I take the course?

Yes. The program is open to chiropractors at any stage in their career. In-person intensives require daily sign-in and sign-out. Asynchronous work is verified through completion of required modules.