

Education and experience matter

(PHYSICIAN/NON-PHYSICIAN COMPARISON)



Education and Experience Matter

When it really matters, Kentuckians want the most qualified person in the room leading their care. That's why patients trust a physician-led, team-based approach.

Experience & Education	Physician (M.D./D.O.)	Physician Assistant	CRNA	Nurse Practitioner	Psychologists
Length of Graduate Level Education	4 Years	2-2.5 Years	2-3 Years	2-4 Years	3 Years
Years in Residency/ Fellowship	3-7 Years	None	None	None	1 Year
Total Patient Care Hours Required Through Training	12,000-16,000 Hours	2,500 Hours	2,000 Hours	500-700 Hours	1-2 Years



Education

Depending on specialty, a physician is required to complete anywhere from 7 to 11 years of post-graduate education. Kentucky also requires physicians to complete many hours of continuous medical education (CME) each licensure cycle.



Hands-on Experience

During their residency, physicians treat actual patients and get hands-on clinical experience.



Licensure

Physicians must undergo rigorous testing to earn their medical licenses and most become board certified.

THE BOTTOM LINE

A physician's education and experience matter – not just to the patients who trust them with their health, but to the entire team delivering their care.

