



Provider reference guide:

Primary care wellness visits — Optional enhanced periodicity visit schedule

Pediatric Well-Child Visits and Preventive Care Visits

Primary care wellness visits are the cornerstone of health maintenance, disease prevention, and early detection and intervention for members of the Children and Families Specialty Plan (CFSP), known as Healthy Blue Care Together.

Well-Child and Preventive Care Visits are an opportunity to assess and support the child or youth's overall health and well-being, including:

- Health promotion and anticipatory guidance
- Preventive care
- Immunizations and age-appropriate screenings
- Monitoring growth, development, chronic conditions, and medication use
- Developmental, mental health, and trauma-informed screening and assessment
- Routine reproductive health care
- Oral health, vision, and hearing screening
- School readiness, attendance, academic progress, and educational support needs
- Referrals for specialty, behavioral health, dental, developmental, or community supports
- Monitoring transitions, caregiver changes, and time spent outside the family home
- Care coordination to support the member's health, safety, stability, and well-being
- Timely wellness visits, screenings, referrals, and follow-up care help support each member's health, safety, stability, and well-being

Required Well Child Visits: Children and youth entering foster care

NC DSS requires both an initial visit and a comprehensive visit for infants, children, and youth upon first entering foster care. Follow-up Well-Child Visits are typically scheduled at the time of the comprehensive visit and typically occur approximately 60 to 90 days after placement.

Visit	Timing	Key requirements	NC DSS form
Initial visit	Within 7 days of entry into foster care	• General health summary, including medication review • Concerns (home, school) • Initial treatment plan • Schedule for a 30-day comprehensive visit	DSS-5206
Comprehensive Visit*	Within 30 days of entry into foster care	• Developmental and behavioral screens: – ASQ-3 (Ages and Stages Questionnaire) or PEDS (0-5) screening tool – PSC (Pediatric Symptom Checklist; ages 6-10 years) – Bright Futures Supplementary Questionnaire or the PSC-Y (Pediatric Symptom Checklist – Youth Version; self-report, ages 11-21) • Mental health and substance use history • Medical and dental history/ concerns • Allergies and medications	DSS-5208
Well-Child Visits**	At least once a year (below)	• Review of health status; repeat medication review; and hearing, vision, development, social-emotional, age-appropriate, and school/educational screening • Comprehensive treatment plan and referrals • Schedule next Well-Child Visit	DSS-5209

* DSS will provide an overview of child/youth health history to the primary care provider at least one week prior to the scheduled 30-day comprehensive visit using form DSS-5207.
** Per North Carolina Division of Social Services (NC DSS) foster care policy, children and youth in foster care (birth to 18) must see a primary care provider for a Well-Child Visit at least once a year, in addition to any 'sick visits' or additional visits recommended by the medical provider.



Optional enhanced wellness visit schedule

An enhanced visit schedule means members receive preventive and wellness visits more often than the standard well-child schedule. The Healthy Blue Care Together program supports an *optional* enhanced wellness schedule for all members, including Well-Child Visits for children and Preventive Care Visits for young adults.

The optional enhanced wellness visit schedule below is consistent with recommendations from the American Academy of Pediatrics for infants, children, youth, and young adults in foster care – up to the age of 21. Healthy Blue Care Together extends enhanced wellness visit eligibility to all enrolled members **up to the age of 26**.

Optional enhanced schedule for Well-Child Visits and Preventive Care Visits*

Member age	Optional enhanced Well-Child Visits and Preventive Care Visits
Birth to 6 months	Monthly
6 to 24 months	Every 3 months
24 months to 26 years	Every 6 months

*More frequent visits may be recommended by the member's provider.

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