

WESTSIDE PEDIATRICS ANNUAL PRACTICE FEE (APF)

We are a practice that accepts most commercial insurance plans. Traditionally, the business model of an insurance taking practice is based upon the number of patients seen daily (volume driven). However, over the course of the pandemic, necessitated by social distancing, we pivoted from this model towards longer visit times. In so doing, it has become overwhelmingly evident that longer visit times result in superior care for our patients and their families. We value this, and intend to preserve it. Our Annual Practice Fee helps to offset the financial gap that is created by this change.

Westside Pediatrics is also an independent practice. We are not limited by the constraints of a larger entity. This impacts our families in several ways, resulting in more personalized attention. For example, when calling our office you speak directly to one of our staff members and are not directed to a call center. Your providers are able to schedule appointments outside of typical business hours and are highly accessible. We maintain optimal control and flexibility over all aspects of our practice, creating exceptionally positive experiences for our families. Our Annual Practice Fee helps keep Westside Pediatrics independent.

Westside Pediatrics provides enhanced services, most of which extend beyond the requirements of insurance coverage and contracts. Our Annual Practice Fee enables us to continue to provide:

- Same day sick appointments
- Seasonal Saturday office hours
- Expanded telemedicine visit hours
- Young Adult care until the age of 25
- Enhanced developmental screening tools and assessment
- Portal communications
- Behavioral and mental health expertise in the office
- Comprehensive lactation care
- Family flu clinics
- Travel health and vaccines
- In office blood draws (eliminating the need for outpatient lab visits)
- Inpatient well baby nursery care
- Urgent coordination of care and communication with specialists
- Facilitation of emergency room care
- Communication with inpatient team if hospitalized

The clinicians at Westside Pediatrics have over 150 cumulative years of experience in pediatric practice. We are faculty of the Icahn School of Medicine at Mount Sinai and active members of the medical staff at The Mount Sinai Hospital.

The Annual Practice Fee is non-refundable. Payment is due annually in the month of May. Routine completion of medical forms will be **included** in this fee. Office visits, telemedicine encounters, telephone calls and portal exchanges will continue to be billed to your insurance company as permitted under your health benefits plan.

If you have further questions regarding our Annual Practice Fee, please contact us via email at APF@wppc.pcc.com.