



Patient Age Eligibility Policy

Effective Date: 01/01/2026

Purpose

The purpose of this policy is to clearly define the age requirements for establishing and receiving care at Bridge Family Practice. This ensures that all patients receive appropriate, age-specific medical care aligned with the training, scope, and focus of our providers.

Policy Statement

Bridge Family Practice is an adult primary care practice. The clinic provides medical services exclusively to patients who are 18 years of age or older.

The practice does not see or establish care for any patient under the age of 18, regardless of:

- Insurance type
- Acuity of condition
- Parental request or consent
- Previous care history at another facility
- Recommendations from outside providers or insurance representatives

This policy applies to all new and established patients without exception.

Rationale

Our providers specialize in adult primary care and are not trained or credentialed to provide pediatric medical services. To ensure patient safety, appropriate care standards, and regulatory compliance, Bridge Family Practice limits its patient population to adults.

This is an office-determined policy and cannot be modified or overridden by any external party, including insurance carriers, representatives, or referring providers.

Identification of Age Eligibility

A patient is considered ineligible for services at Bridge Family Practice if:

- They are under the age of 18 at the time of scheduling,
- They will still be under 18 on the date of the appointment, or
- Documentation indicates a date of birth that places the patient below the minimum age requirement.

If age ineligibility is identified at any point—before or after scheduling—the appointment must be canceled, and the patient must be redirected to a pediatric provider.

Patient Guidance

Patients under 18 should establish care with a licensed pediatrician or family medicine provider who is trained to manage pediatric health needs.

Our staff may provide general guidance on locating pediatric care but cannot recommend specific providers or facilities unless approved by management.

Authority & Enforcement

This policy is strictly enforced.

No staff member, insurance representative, or outside party may modify, waive, or override this policy under any circumstance.

Any questions regarding interpretation or enforcement of this policy must be directed to practice leadership.

Sincerely,

Bridge Family Practice Management & Care Team

Bridge Family Practice

Phone: 361-977-2059

Fax: 361-977-2047

Address: 443 Houston St. Portland, TX 78374

Website: Bridgemfp.com