

**2026 Blue Cross and Blue Shield Service Benefit Plan - FEP Blue Focus****Section 3. How You Get Care****How to request precertification for an admission or get prior approval for *Other services*:  
Maternity care**

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- **Maternity care**

We encourage you to notify us of your pregnancy during the first trimester. You do not need precertification of a maternity admission for a routine delivery. However, if your medical condition requires you to stay more than 48 hours after a vaginal delivery or 96 hours after a cesarean section, your physician or the hospital must contact us for precertification of additional days. Further, if your newborn stays after you are discharged, then your physician or the hospital must contact us for precertification of additional days for your newborn.

Note: When a newborn requires definitive treatment during or after the mother's hospital stay, the newborn is considered a patient in their own right. If the newborn is eligible for coverage, regular medical or surgical benefits apply rather than maternity benefits.