Blue Distinction® Centers

This distinction is awarded by BlueCross BlueShield companies and recognizes a facility's excellence in delivering quality, affordable care to its patients. BlueCross BlueShield offers two levels of distinction. Blue Distinction Centers (BDC) and Blue Distinction Centers+ (BDC+). BDC+ distinction recognizes health care facilities that go above and beyond providing safe and cost-efficient care.

SPECIALTY CARE AREAS	Washington Regional	Freeman Health Springdale	Mercy Hospital Northwest Arkansas	Freeman Health Bentonville	Mercy Hospital Fort Smith	Baptist Health Fort Smith	University of Arkansas for Medical Sciences	CHI St. Vincent Little Rock	Baptist Health Medical Center Little Rock	St. Bernards Medical Center	Mercy Hospital Springfield	Cox Medical Center South
Bariatric Surgery		BDC+	BDC+	BDC+	BDC				BDC+			
Cancer Care												
Cardiac Care								BDC+	BDC+			
Cellular Immunotherapy (CAR-T)												
Fertility Care												
Gene Therapy-Ocular Disorders												
Knee and Hip Replacement	BDC+						BDC+		BDC+	BDC+		
Maternity Care	BDC+		BDC+				BDC+		BDC+			
Spine Surgery	BDC+						BDC		BDC+			
Adult Bone Marrow/Stem Cell Transplants							BDC					
Adult Kidney Transplants (Living & Deceased Donor)							BDC					
Adult Liver Transplants (Deceased Donor)							BDC+					

Note: Freeman Health acquired Northwest Health in June 2026.

Last Updated: August 2026

Ratings Key:
BDC+ = Providers meet quality-focused criteria that emphasize patient safety and outcomes, as well as cost-of-care measures.
BDC = Providers meet quality-focused criteria that emphasize patient safety and outcomes.