The votes are tallied, and the results are in. Meet St. Louis' 1,106 standout physicians across 79 specialties.

First, though, here are the answers to five commonly asked questions:

How are these physicians selected? Best Doctors, Inc., a 20-year-old company founded by doctors affiliated with Harvard Medical School, contacts physicians in the St. Louis region who have been included on a previous Best Doctors list and asks them, "If you or a loved one needed a doctor in your specialty, to whom would you refer them?"

What happens to the newly nominated doctors? Best Doctors checks for licensing and certification requirements and any disqualifying disciplinary actions. Doctors who withstand the company's vetting process are added to the list.

Is the list updated annually? Yes. Each year, Best Doctors contacts the offices of every doctor for thorough fact-checking (location, phone number, clinical activity, etc.). The list is updated accordingly.

Can physicians pay Best Doctors or St. Louis Magazine to be listed? No.

Where can I learn more about Best Doctors and its processes? Call 800-675-1199 or visit bestdoctors.com.
"I feel very blessed to be a family physician. Maybe it’s because when it comes to medicine, I didn’t have to decide ‘what I wanted to be when I grew up.’ As a family physician, I don’t have to choose; I get to do it all. It’s rewarding to do a newborn physical in the nursery in the morning, treat a plethora of medical problems in the nursing home, and then visit with a 90-plus-year-old in the nursing home. It doesn’t get mundane or boring, and every day is something new."
"To me, dermatology is the most exciting field. I’m a visual person, so dermatology just made sense to me. It can be challenging, but I love that about my work. We have so many new advances in treatments and medicines available that I can now treat people who I couldn’t help before. This makes my work very gratifying and rewarding. And in dermatology, not only can I literally see a difference in someone’s health, they can, too. I’ve been in practice 30 years, and I never get tired of meeting and helping patients.”
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