

Diabetes means that your blood glucose (blood sugar) is too high. Over time, this can damage many parts of the body and cause serious health problems, like heart disease, stroke, blindness, kidney disease, and loss of a foot or leg.

There are 2 main types of diabetes:

Type 1 diabetes (less common)—the body does not make insulin (a substance that helps the body turn food that we eat into energy). People with type 1 diabetes need to take insulin every day. Type 1 diabetes is not very common, and people with this type usually find out that they have it when they are babies or young children.

Type 2 diabetes (more common)—the body does not make enough insulin or the body does not use insulin well. People with type 2 diabetes often need to take pills or insulin. Type 2 diabetes is the most common form of diabetes. About 95% of Native Hawaiians with diabetes have this type.

Some people, including Pacific Islanders, are more likely to get diabetes. Ask yourself these questions:

- Are you Pacific Islander, Native Hawaiian, Asian American, Native American, Hispanic, or African American?**
- Do you have family members with diabetes (such as parents, brothers, or sisters)?**
- Are you overweight?**
- Do you exercise less than 3 times a week?**
- Has a doctor ever told you that you have high blood pressure?**
- Has a doctor ever told you that you have high cholesterol?**
- If you are a woman who has been pregnant, did you ever have diabetes when pregnant or did you give birth to a baby that weighed more than 9 pounds?**

If you answered “YES” to any of these questions, you should ask your doctor or health care provider about getting tested for diabetes.

To learn more about diabetes or to find out how to get tested, call:

American Samoa DPCP
(684) 633-2186

LBJ Diabetes Education Program
(684) 633-1222, ext. 171

Commonwealth of the Northern Mariana Islands DPCP
(670) 664-4030

Federated States of Micronesia,
National DPCP (691) 320-2619

- Chuuk State DPCP: (691) 330-4145
- Chuuk Women’s Council: (691) 330-8396
- Kosrae State DPCP: (691) 370-3006
- Pohnpei State DPCP: (691) 320-7843
- Yap State DPCP: (691) 350-2115

Guam DPCP
(671) 735-7289

Guam Diabetes Association
(671) 632-1971

Republic of Belau DPCP
(681) 488-4804

Republic of the Marshall Islands
DPCP
(692) 625-3355, ext. 2486

Youth to Youth in Health
(692) 625-3099