

INFORMATION SESSION FOR DOULA COLLECTIVE



Office of
Equity and Inclusion

Traditional Health Worker Program

December 12th, 14th & 20th 2022



AGENDA

- Introduction and Meeting Overview
- Review OARs
- Definitions
- Workforce Application
- Training Programs
- Review Associated Documents
- Comments & Feedback

GOALS

To inform and align ~~to~~ with the guidance and standards set forth by the OARs involving doulas and doula training organizations

Promote an inclusive vision, and support a unified Oregon Traditional Health Worker workforce

REVIEW OF THE OREGON ADMINISTRATIVE RULES (OAR)

Chapter 410 Division 180

Purpose ([410-180-0300](#))

- These rules establish the criteria for training, certification, and enrollment of traditional health workers (THW) in a registry maintained by the Oregon Health Authority (Authority).
- THWs include community health workers, personal health navigators, peer wellness specialists, peer support specialists, and birth doulas not otherwise regulated or certified by the State of Oregon.
- These rules also establish curriculum requirements and procedures for Authority approval of programs seeking to train Oregon's traditional health workers.

410-180-0315

BIRTH DOULA (EDUCATION) CERTIFICATION REQUIREMENTS

To be certified as a birth doula, an individual shall complete a required

- 28-hour birth doula training program offered by an Authority approved birth doula training program;
- And complete 6 hours of cultural competency, 1 hours of interprofessional collaboration, 1 hours of HIPAA, and 4 hours of Trauma Informed Care
- Complete an Authority approved oral health training;
- Be CPR-certified for infants, children and adults;
- Create a community resource list on an Authority approved form;
- Document attendance at a minimum of three births and three postpartum visits using an Authority approved form

DEFINITIONS

“Verifiable Evidence” means a pay statement, services contract, student practicum, volunteer time log, or other documentation reflecting hours worked or volunteered.

"Contact Hour" means an hour of classroom, group, or distance learning training. Contact hour does not include homework time, preparatory reading, or practicum.

“Legacy Clause for Traditional Health Workers” means an individual who has never been certified with the Authority before and gets recognition for Certification as a result of their prior training and work experience and fulfillment of all additional requirements for the Legacy clause as set forth in these rules.

DOULA CERTIFICATION

What if an applicant took a training from a training organization not approved by OHA, either in-state or out-of-state?

- Core trainings (of the required minimum 28-hrs of training) completed before October 1, 2022, will be accepted however, the training completion date must not exceed 3-years of their application date.
- In other words, applicants shall apply for certification within three years of completing a training program to be eligible for certification and registry enrollment. See OAR [410-180-0325](#)
- For individuals holding a national or non-Oregon state certification and are in good standing with their certifying body may be granted reciprocity or receive equivalent credit for previously completed core/foundational training. The Authority shall determine the criteria for reciprocity and equivalent credit.

LEGACY CLAUSE: APPLYING FOR BIRTH DOULA CERTIFICATION

- “Legacy Clause for Traditional Health Workers” means an individual who has never been certified with the Authority before and gets recognition for Certification as a result of their prior training and work experience and fulfillment of all additional requirements for the Legacy clause as set forth in these rules.

Required Documents for Legacy Applications ONLY

- A clear copy of government issued identification
- An OHA-approved oral health training (*beginning October 2017*)
- Current CPR certification for adults and infants/children
- A minimum of one letter of recommendation from any previous employer for whom THW services were provided between January 1, 2008, and June 30, 2025
- Verifiable evidence of attending 10 births
- Verifiable evidence of providing 500 hours of community work supporting birthing persons and families in the capacity of a birth doula.

LEGACY AS A DOULA

Is verifiable evidence of attending 10 births and providing 500 hours of community work supporting birthing persons and families in the capacity of a birth doula the same?

- No, these are two separate requirements.
- The 500 hours could come from prenatal visits, postpartum visits, meetings and collaborations centering birthing/doula related activities.

Independent contractors or self-employed doulas needing to provide a recommendation letter...

- May obtain a letter of recommendation from previous client(s), community partner, business partners, or colleagues of whom can verify activities in the capacity of a birth doula has been conducted.

How should independent contractors or self-employed Birth Doula report verifiable evidence?

- Refer to definition of verifiable evidence.

LEGACY AS A DOULA

How can applicants ensure compliance with HIPAA rules while satisfying requirements of the Legacy Clause?

- Pay statement, services contract, other documentation reflecting hours worked

Out of state doulas wanting to be certified in Oregon

- Individuals who hold national or non-Oregon state certification and are in good standing with their certifying body may be granted reciprocity or receive equivalent credit for previously completed training. The Authority shall determine the criteria for reciprocity and equivalent credit.

DOULA TRAINING PROGRAMS

All OHA approved birth doula foundational training and approved continuous education units (CEU) curriculum materials can be taken in-person or online utilizing live, virtual in real-time sessions. Applicants cannot take online modules to meet this requirement...

- Doula foundational trainings of 28-hours may be delivered via any of the combination if training organizations ensure trainees meet the knowledge acquisition through a virtual platform. Further, the training organization must complete and submit the Virtual Training Request Intake form for approval to Oregon Health Authority's Office of Equity and Inclusion.
- The required 12 hours of additional coursework may be delivered on-demand (i.e., not live), in-person, etc.

DOULA TRAINING PROGRAMS

Where can training organizations find the Virtual Training Request Intake form?

- Intake Form for Online Training

<https://www.oregon.gov/oha/OEI/Pages/THW-Training-Programs.aspx>

OHA-recognition of THW training programs

- An organization must submit and be approved to deliver core trainings in the state of Oregon effective October 1, 2022.

APPENDIX

UPDATED: BIRTH DOULA CHECKLIST

Birth Doula State Registry Application Checklist

You must send this form with your Traditional Health Worker (THW) Application when applying for OHA certification as a THW birth doula. Be sure to send all the items listed below and sign the statements below relevant to your application type.

This form includes the checklist for new applications, as well as legacy applications.

Doula Contact Information

Applicant's name: _____ Phone number: _____

Email (personal email recommended): _____

Required Documents for New Applications

- A clear copy of government issued identification

Certificates of attendance for the following education:

- At least 28 contact hours of in-person education offered by an Authority approved training program, that includes any combination of childbirth education and birth doula training.
- At least six contact hours of cultural competency
- At least one contact hour of interprofessional collaboration
- At least one contact hour of Health Insurance Portability and Accountability Act (HIPAA) compliance
- At least four contact hours trauma-informed care
- An OHA-approved oral health training (beginning October 2017)
- Current CPR certification for adults and infants/children

I, _____ (name of doula) attest that I have completed attendance at three births in the capacity of birth doula. These births occurred after my doula training date. I understand that falsifying this information will result in immediate revocation of my state certification. In addition, I may be ineligible to apply to be on the registry in the future. I understand that there may be an audit on proof of attendance at these births and I must supply documentation as requested."

I, _____ (name of doula) attest that I have completed attendance at three postpartum visits with clients I provided labor support for in the capacity of birth doula. These postpartum visits occurred after my doula training date. I understand that falsifying this information will result in immediate revocation of my state certification. In addition, I may be ineligible to apply to be on the registry in the future. I understand that there may be an audit on proof of attendance at these postpartum visits and I must supply documentation as requested."

Signature: _____ Date: _____

Proof of community completed resource list

I, _____ (name of doula) hereby attest that I have developed a community resource list for the counties or geographical area I serve. I understand that falsifying this information will result in immediate revocation of my state certification. In addition, I may be ineligible to apply to be on the registry in the future. I understand that there may be an audit regarding proof of completing a community resource list and I must supply any documentation as requested."

Signature: _____ Date: _____

Required Documents for Legacy Applications ONLY

- A clear copy of government issued identification
- An OHA-approved oral health training (beginning October 2017)
- Current CPR certification for adults and infants/children
- A minimum of one letter of recommendation from any previous employer for whom THW services were provided between January 1, 2008, and June 30, 2025
- Verifiable evidence of attending 10 births
- Verifiable evidence of providing 500 hours of community work supporting birthing persons and families in the capacity of a birth doula.

I, _____ (name of doula) attest that I have completed attendance at ten births in the capacity of birth doula. These births occurred before applying for this birth doula certification. I understand that falsifying this information will result in immediate revocation of my state certification. In addition, I may be ineligible to apply to be on the registry in the future. I understand that there may be an audit on proof of attendance at these births and I must supply documentation as requested."

I, _____ (name of doula) attest that I have provided 500 hours of community work to clients and families I provided labor support for in the capacity of birth doula. These community work occurred before applying for this birth doula certification. I understand that falsifying this information will result in immediate revocation of my state certification. In addition, I may be ineligible to apply to be on the registry in the future. I understand that there may be an audit on proof of community work and I must supply documentation as requested."

Signature: _____ Date: _____

You can get this document in other languages, large print, braille or a format you prefer free of charge. Contact the Traditional Health Worker Program at 1-844-882-7889 or e-mail thw.program@dhsosha.oregon.gov We accept all relay call, or you can dial 711.

COMMENTS AND FEEDBACK

RELATED ARTICLES

[OREGON ADMINISTRATIVE RULES: TRADITIONAL HEALTH WORKERS](#)

[MEMO AFFECTING DOULAS AND DOULA TRAINING PROGRAMS](#)



Submit inquiries to
THW.program@dhsoha.Oregon.gov

THANK YOU