

MIDWIFE APPRENTICESHIP STEPS

ALL Level I, II and Level IIIA apprenticeship training shall be conducted under **direct supervision** (in the physical presence of the licensed supervisor). Level IIIB **may** be under indirect supervision if approved by the Board.

You must have a current Montana State license to practice in Montana with at least one licensed supervisor.

By law, a direct-entry apprentice license can only be renewed 4 times.

Prenatals or births submitted cannot be those used by another midwife submitting licensing records and cannot be prenatals or births used for previous apprenticeship levels.

If your supervisor is a CNM or physician rather than a licensed midwife, be aware that a supervisor may not expand your scope of practice as you are limited to what is authorized under your midwife apprentice license. **Be aware of required reporting requirements in ARM 24.111.613.**

All applicants sign an affidavit on the licensing application stating that **they have read and are familiar with the midwifery licensure laws of the State of Montana**. The statutes and rules are available on the Board's website www.althealth.mt.gov.

STEP I. File apprentice application (found on www.althealth.mt.gov) with:

- 1) completed supervision form;
- 2) current CPR card indicating certification to perform adult & infant CPR meeting law requirements;
- 3) curriculum outline or method of academic learning that completes licensing education requirements (Complete Form #1 with this information).
- 4) proper fee.

Once approved by the Board, Level I license will be issued and Level I Skills Checklist, Prenatal Form and Birth Observation Form will be included with the license. The focus of Level I is prenatal care. To complete Level I, an apprentice must:

- 1) observe 40 births;
- 2) provide 20 prenatal exams;
- 3) complete Level I Skills Checklist;
- 4) submit evaluation of skills and educational progress form, with written verification by supervisor of completion of Level I.

STEP II. Send in Level I forms when completed. Once approved by the Board, Level II license will be issued along with the Level II Skills Checklist and a Prenatal Form. The focus of Level II is birth, postpartum, and newborn care. To complete Level II, an apprentice must:

- 1) attend 10 births as a primary birth attendant, with births verified by signed birth certificates and/or an affidavit from the supervisor;
- 2) provide 40 prenatal exams;
- 3) submit prenatal protocols listed in ARM 24.111.603;
- 4) complete Level II Skills Checklist;
- 5) submit evaluation of skills and educational progress form, with written verification by supervisor of completion of Level II.

STEP III Send in Level II forms when completed. Once approved by the Board, Level III license will be issued along with the Level III Skills Checklist and a Prenatal Form. The focus of Level II is continuous prenatal, perinatal, and postnatal care. To complete Level III, an apprentice must:

- 1) complete 15 continuous care births as the primary attendant, which are verified by signed birth certificates or affidavit from supervisor and patient records;
 - (i) documentation of each of the 15 continuous care births as defined in 37-27-103, MCA must include at least five prenatal exams, one of which must have been performed before the beginning of the 28th week of gestation, as determined by last menstrual period or sonogram, and include one postpartum exam. Ten of the 15 continuous care births must have been performed under the direct supervision of a qualified supervisor.
- 2) provide 40 prenatal examinations;
- 3) submit protocols for birth, postpartum and newborn care Listed in ARM 24.111.603;
- 4) complete level III Skills Checklist;
- 5) submit evaluation of skills and educational progress form, with written verification by supervisor of completion of Level III.

Final 5 continuous care births may be completed under indirect supervision as per ARM 24.111.602 (7). **Be aware of required reporting requirements in ARM 24.111.613.**

STEP IV At the completion of all requirements in §37-27-201, MCA (including education), apprentice will apply for full direct-entry midwife licensure by completing the application found on the Board's website www.althealth.mt.gov. Application deadlines are posted on the website under Exam Information.

All applicants for NARM examination shall sit for the NARM examination **only** when administered by the Board, at its designated Montana site, or when administered by proper NARM officials in conjunction with the annual midwives alliance of North America (MANA) national meeting.

APPRENTICE SUPERVISORS

- 1) must be licensed in good standing as a direct-entry midwife, a certified nurse midwife, a licensed naturopathic physician with a childbirth specialty certificate or a physician;
- 2) a direct-entry midwife supervisor shall have 20 post-licensure continuous care births as a primary birth attendant (approved by the Board) before supervising Level II and Level III apprentices;
- 3) review and sign all documents required by the Board under the direct-entry midwife apprenticeship program;
- 4) supervise no more than four direct-entry midwife apprentices at the same time;
- 5) notify the board in writing of any change in the supervisory relationship, including advancement from direct to indirect supervision, termination of the supervisory relationship or any other relevant changes **and submit supervision change notification to the Board so that it is received on or before the day that supervised tasks are performed in order for them to count toward licensure requirements;** and
- 6) are directly responsible for all activities undertaken by the apprentice(s) under their supervision agreement.

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