



NATIONAL DOULA CERTIFICATION BOARD

Certified Professional Doula (CPD) Initial Certification Requirements

Step 1 – Educational Validation

The Certified Professional Doula (CPD) is trained through 2 pathways including pre-approved training programs or an individual/prior learning pathway.

➤ Pathway 1: Approved Training Program Pathway

Current training organizations with approved programs that meet all the requirements:

- Allo Doula Academy's CPD Training Course

➤ Pathway 2: Prior Learning/Individual Learning Pathway

This pathway requires each person to complete Part 1 and Part 2:

Part 1-Training Requirements: The individual must complete a minimum of combined 200hrs of training (with proof of completion, within the last 4 years) in the following topic areas:

- Prenatal/pregnancy support
- Fertility/Infertility
- Labor support
- Postpartum support
- End of life support
- Business
- Infant Feeding
- Maternal Mental Health (non-clinical)
- Newborn care
- Newborn and Infant development
- Diversity and Cultural sensitivity
- HIPAA

Part 2 - Clinical experience requirements: The individual must complete a minimum of 75hrs of hands-on clinical experience in a medical facility with a preceptor.

The preceptor must be a qualified healthcare provider (RN, BSN, CPM, CNM, OBGYN), and the preceptor must agree to the preceptor requirements and hold the responsibility of validating the clinical experience.

The clinical experience must be non-compensated and include:

- 75 hours total contact hours (55 in medical facility, 20 in-home)
- 5 live births
- Postpartum support (in home) 20 hours
- Adherence to medical protocols



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Step 2- Certification

Eligibility Requirements:

1. Complete one of the training pathways (listed in Step 1) and provide all appropriate documentation of training completion.
2. Provide professional business documents
 - a. Business registration documents (i.e. articles of incorporation, LLC registration, etc...) or proof of W2 employment as a doula
 - b. Copy of client contract
 - c. Bio/Resume/Headshot
3. Provide proof of OSHA/Bloodborne Pathogens & Universal Precautions Training
4. Provide proof of current CPR certification
5. Provide proof of current professional liability insurance
6. Completed Application for Initial Certification
7. Application Fee

Upon receipt of the Application for Initial Certification and application fee paid before the NDCB will review the application. Upon review of the application, if all is complete and valid, the applicant is now a candidate will be eligible to take the CPD Certification Exam.