



Legal Requirements for Midwives in Private Practice¹

Professional License

Issued by the Professional Regulation Commission (PRC) to a midwife who passed the licensure examination given by the Board of Midwifery, PRC. It is needed to open a birthing home and is required by Philhealth to utilize the Maternity Care Package for Normal Spontaneous Delivery (NSD). License is valid for three (3) years. Renewal fee is Php 540 as of November 2005.

Certificate of Completion for Comprehensive Training

A six (6) week comprehensive training course which entitles midwives to offer services such as IUD insertion and removal, pill dispensing, natural family planning and Depomedroxy-acetate (DMPA) injections.

Certificate of Accreditation: Birthing Home

The Bureau of Health Facilities, Department of Health (DOH) gives accreditation to birthing homes regardless of bed capacity. As defined in the inspection tool, it is a health facility that provides maternity services or pre-natal and post-natal care, normal spontaneous delivery and care of newborn babies. The terms birthing home and lying-in can be used interchangeably.

Schedule of fees for birthing home (as of 11/2005)
Permit to construct: Php 300
License: Php 750 (initial)
 Php 375 (renewal)

Bureau Circular No. 002 S 2005

A licensure standard incorporated in the inspection tool of birthing home that includes all directors of Center for Health Development, regulating officers, owners, administrators of Birthing Homes and others concerned. (Issued July 3, 2005).

The inspection tool includes renewal information, service capability, required personnel, equipment/instruments needed, physical plant waste management, signage, sanitation, etc. It also includes requirements for new health facilities (building permit, plumbing, electrical and mechanical permits), fire safety, sanitary permit, and others.

Philhealth Accreditation ID

Issued to a midwife once application for accreditation has been approved. Accreditation entitles the midwives to the Philhealth maternity care package for Normal Spontaneous Delivery (NSD). A case rate of 4,500 pesos shall be paid to a midwife. This package shall only be limited to the first two (2) normal deliveries.

¹ This information is also in the Participant Course Manual, Module III, as an Annex.



Philhealth Application for Accreditation

A midwife shall submit a completed application for accreditation and all required documents to the Accreditation Department of the Regional or Central Philhealth office. A fee of 500 pesos shall be paid upon initial or renewal of accreditation. The validity period is three (3) years, renewable on the anniversary date. The application for renewal of accreditation shall be filed between 91 and 121 calendar days before the expiration of the existing accreditation.

Permit/License issued by the Local Government Unit (Including the Inspection Tool for Birthing Home)

Building Permit

- Plumbing, electrical, and mechanical permits
- Fire safety permit
- Fire safety inspection certificate
- Sanitary permit
- Certificate of occupancy
- Water source analysis

The engineering department of the Local Government Unit issues building permits for approximately 600 pesos. Certificates and permits are renewable yearly. The Municipal Health Officer (MHO) issues the sanitary permit. Certificate of occupancy is given after an on-site inspection verifies that the actual specifications of the building match those stated in the application.

Other information

Under the Civil Service Law, a government employee has to work eight (8) hours a day or forty (40) hours a week. A midwife with a government position can engage in private practice after office hours and attend home deliveries. However, in some isolated cases, the local government official will want a midwife on-call after hours without remuneration. There are also midwives who own lying-in or birthing homes (one to two bed).

The Civil Service Commission is now in the process of preparing guidelines regarding the practice of health professionals beyond office hours.



Standards for Philhealth Accreditation of Midwives as Providers of the Low Risk Maternity Care Package

(As of 5/28/01)

- 1.1. The midwife shall be a licensed practitioner.
- 1.2. The midwife shall be a member in good standing of a PHIC recognized national association of midwives, such as the Integrated Midwives Association of the Philippines (IMAP) and the Philippine League of Government Midwives (PLGM).
- 1.3. The midwife shall have an active practice. Evidence of active practice include:
 - 1.3.1. For employed Midwives - appointment papers/certificate of employment as a registered midwife in a PHIC accredited institutional health care provider, private clinic, government/private hospital, rural health unit/center; or
 - 1.3.2. For privately practicing midwives - certification from barangay captain as an independent Domiciliary Obstetrical Practitioner in the municipality/place of practice
 - 1.3.3. At least 25 deliveries in the past 12 months supported by clear photocopies of birth certificates
- 1.4. The midwife shall have competence in the Midwifery skills. She shall be able to present Certificate/s of Training in all of the following:
 - 1.4.1. Suturing 1st and 2nd degree perineal lacerations
 - 1.4.2. Performing internal examination
 - 1.4.3. IV insertion
 - 1.4.4. Family planning
- 1.5. The midwife shall have two (2) PARTNER PHYSICIANS, one for obstetric cases and one for newborn cases, who are accredited by PhilHealth and are affiliated in a PHIC accredited secondary or tertiary hospital.
 - 1.5.1. The Partner Physician for Obstetric Cases shall be a:
 - 1.5.1.1. Diplomate of the Philippine Obstetrical & Gynecological Society, or
 - 1.5.1.2. General Practitioner (allowed only in provinces where there are no certified OB-GYNE Specialist) with a:
 - 1.5.1.2.1. Certificate of Training in a POGS accredited Residency Program, or
 - 1.5.1.2.2. Certificate of Training in a PAFP accredited Family Medicine Training Program, or



1.5.1.2.3. Certificate of at least six months in-service training in OB-GYNE (for government physicians)

1.5.2. The Partner Physician for Newborn Cases shall be a:

1.5.2.1. Diplomate of the Philippine Pediatric Society, or

1.5.2.2. General Practitioner (allowed only in provinces where there are no certified Pediatrics Specialist) with a:

1.5.2.2.1. Certificate of Training in a PPS accredited Residency Program, or

1.5.2.2.2. Certificate of Training in a PAFP accredited Family Medicine Training Program, or

1.5.2.2.3. Certificate of at least six months in-service training in Pediatrics (for government physicians)

C. PROCESSING REQUIREMENTS:

1. All requirements for accreditation of midwives as stipulated in the application form must be complied with.
2. The RHIO shall receive the application and documentary requirements with date of receipt indicated. After evaluating the application and documentary requirements, the RHIO will forward these to the Accreditation Department, PhilHealth Central Office for final approval.
3. Applications with **incomplete or insufficient documentary requirements** shall be **denied**, with prejudice to the option of the applicant to re-file, together with the required documents.

For more inquiries, please write to:

The Officer-In-Charge
Accreditation Department
Philippine Health Insurance Corporation
12th Floor, City State Center, 709 Shaw Blvd. Oranbo, Pasig City

or call the Accreditation Hotline at 637-6265 and Telefax No. 637-2527

http://www.philhealth.gov.ph/circulars/2001/circ15_2001.htm



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	Certification	Training Requirements	Services Allowed to Perform	Products Allowed to Prescribe/Sell
Home Deliveries	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Diploma / Certificate ▪ Professional License 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ 2 year degree in midwifery course ▪ Post graduate course - Suturing perineal lacerations (1st and 2nd degree) - Intra Venous Fluid (IVF) insertion 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Normal Spontaneous Delivery (NSD) • Immediate care of newborn - Give Vitamin K (Intramuscularly) - Eye prophylaxis • Suture perineal laceration (1st and 2nd degree) • Insert IV fluid 	
Home Deliveries with Family Planning product preceptor	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Diploma / Certificate ▪ Professional License ▪ 6 weeks comprehensive training 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ 2 year degree in midwifery course ▪ Post graduate course - Suturing perineal lacerations (1st and 2nd degree) - Intra Venous Fluid (IVF) insertion <p>Basic comprehensive Family Planning</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - IUD insertion - IUD removal - Pill dispensing - DMPA (Depomedroxy Progestin Acetate) 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Normal Spontaneous Delivery (NSD) • Immediate care of newborn - Give Vitamin K (Intramuscularly) - Eye prophylaxis • Suture perineal laceration (1st and 2nd degree) • Insert IV fluid • Insert / Remove IUD • Dispense pill • Inject DMPA 	Pill and Over the counter products
Home Deliveries with Family Planning product preceptor and child vaccine	<p>Note: Under the existing Midwifery Law (RA 7392) a registered midwife is allowed to give Vitamin K to newborn. Immunization (BCG, DPT, Measles vaccine) is given at the health Center; Midwives in private practice (with Birthing Home and back-up support from doctor) can give vaccine.</p>			