Become a State-Certified Community Doula!
Help Improve the Lives of Mothers and Babies

The Department of Medical Assistance Services (DMAS) is pleased to announce that Virginia is the 4th state in the nation to offer community doula services as a benefit for Medicaid members. We encourage existing doulas and interested individuals to apply to become a State-Certified Community Doula and join the Virginia Medicaid program as a provider!

What is a State-Certified Community Doula? A State-Certified Community Doula is a trained, community-based, non-medical professional who provides continuous physical, emotional, and informational support to pregnant mothers and their families throughout pregnancy, during labor and delivery, and up to one year after birth. A State-Certified Community Doula is certified by the Virginia Certification Board and is a trusted source of support who provides connections to local resources, education, and assistance to birthing families.

Why should I become a State-Certified Community Doula? Community doulas experience a unique and rewarding career that support mothers on their journey of pregnancy and childbirth. Community doulas educate mothers to be healthy and have healthy babies, and empower them to make some of the most important decisions of their lives.

Who can become a State-Certified Community Doula? Anyone! To learn more about the steps to become a State-Certified Community Doula please visit the Virginia Department of Health at:
https://www.vdh.virginia.gov/family-planning/doula-state-certification/

How do I begin the process?
Step 1 – Obtain Virginia State Certification
1. Complete all education and training requirements.
2. Submit the state-certified Doula application (with $100 certification fee) found here: https://www.vacertboard.org/sites/default/files/VCB_Doula_Application_22.pdf
3. Visit the Virginia Certification Board: **www.vacertboard.org** or email: **info@vacertboard.org**

Step 2 – Enroll with Medicaid by completing these steps in order:
1. Obtain your state certification. The state certification must be uploaded with your application.
2. Obtain a National Provider Identifier (NPI) at https://nppes.cms.hhs.gov/#/
3. Purchase proof of liability insurance to provide services (costs may vary).
4. Complete the Medicaid Enrollment Application at https://Virginia.hppcloud.com/

Step 3 – Contract with the Health Care Organizations
State-Certified Community Doulas need to work with the participating health care organizations to provide services. Visit https://www.dmas.virginia.gov/for-providers/maternal-and-child-health/community-doula-program/ for more information and contracting instructions.

Questions? Visit the Community Doula website at: https://www.dmas.virginia.gov/for-providers/maternal-and-child-health/community-doula-program/