



Wes Moore, Governor · Aruna Miller, Lt. Governor · Laura Herrera Scott, M.D., M.P.H., Secretary

MARYLAND MEDICAL ASSISTANCE PROGRAM

MCO Transmittal No. 218

Doula Transmittal No. 6

Hospital Transmittal No. 313

Free Standing Birth Centers Transmittal No. 6

Local Health Department Transmittal No. 20

July 11, 2024

TO: Managed Care Organizations
 Doulas
 Hospitals
 Free Standing Birth Centers
 Local Health Departments

FROM: Sandra Kick, Director *Sandra E Kick*
 Office of Medical Benefits Management

RE: Coverage of Doula Services for HealthChoice and Medicaid Fee-For-Service Enrollees

NOTE: **Please ensure that appropriate staff members in your organization are informed of the contents of this transmittal.**

This transmittal supersedes previous guidance in transmittals [PT 24-23](#), [PT 31-23](#), [PT 37-22](#), and [PT 66-23](#) to update and clarify guidance for reimbursement, provider certification requirements, and coordination with managed care organizations (MCOs).

Effective February 21, 2022, Maryland Medicaid expanded coverage for doula/birth worker services to Medicaid beneficiaries. A doula, or birth worker, is a trained professional who provides continuous physical, emotional, and informational support to birthing parents before, during, and after birth. Certified doulas serving Maryland Medicaid members will provide person-centered, culturally-competent care that supports the racial, ethnic, and cultural diversity of members while adhering to evidence-based practices.

Doulas provide three kinds of services: prenatal visits, attendance at labor and delivery, and postpartum visits.

The Department encourages Maryland-based hospitals to review their labor and delivery admission policies in recognition of this new provider type after the effective date to ensure doula may provide services within their scope of practice during deliveries.

Participant Eligibility Criteria

To be eligible to receive doula services, Medicaid participants must:

- Receive services through a HealthChoice managed care organization (MCO) or be enrolled in fee-for-service Medicaid; and
- Be pregnant or have delivered a child within the last 180 days.

Referral Requirements

A health care professional or MCO may refer HealthChoice enrollees to the program. Prior authorization is not required for doula services.

Doula Conditions for Participation and Certification

Only a doula who meets Maryland Medicaid’s certification and participation requirements may enroll with Medicaid to administer doula services. Approved doulas will meet the following requirements:

- Be at least 18 years of age
- Obtain and maintain liability insurance
- Attest to being trained and certified by an MDH approved organization [see below]
- If enrolling as a group practice type, obtain a Type 2/organizational NPI. If enrolling as an individual provider, obtain a Type 1/individual NPI.
- Enroll in ePREP as a fee-for-service Medicaid provider
- Must pass a background check

The following organizations are approved by MDH. Expanded organizations, which are approved as of June 2024, are highlighted in gray. For each organization, **ALL** of the listed trainings are required:

Organization	Certification Requirement(s)
Ancient Song Doula Services	● Full Spectrum Labor & Postpartum Certification
Beauty for Ashes Maternal Wellness	● Full-Spectrum Doula Course
BEST Doula Training	● Full Spectrum Doula
Birth Arts International	● Doula Certification Program
Birth in Color	● Community Based Doula Certificate
Birth Supporters United	● Community Birth Doula Certificate
Birthing from Within	● Birth Doula Certification
Birthworkers of Color Collective	● Full Spectrum Doula Training
Black Doula Training (BDT), formerly The International Black Doula Institute	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● Pregnancy & Childbirth Doula Certification AND ● Postpartum & Newborn Certification AND ● Lactation/Breastfeeding Certificate of Completion

Organization	Certification Requirement(s)
Black Women’s Health Imperative (BWHI)	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● Community-Based Full Spectrum (Preconception, Childbirth, Postpartum, Lactation) Doula Training
Catholic Doula Program	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● Birth Doula Training AND ● Postpartum Doula Training
The Childbirth and Postpartum Professional Association (CAPPA)	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● Certified Labor Doula Certification AND ● Certified Postpartum Doula Certification AND ● Certified Community Lactation Educator Certification
Childbirth International (CBI)	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● Birth Doula Certification AND ● Postpartum Doula Certification
Commonsense Childbirth Training Institute	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● Full Spectrum Doula Training
Cornerstone Birthwork Training	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● Certified Full Spectrum Doula OR ● Certified Labor & Birth Doula AND ● Certified Postpartum Doula
Doula Trainings International (DTI)	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● Birth Doula Certification AND ● Postpartum Doula Certification OR ● Full Spectrum Doula Certification
Doulas of North America (DONA)	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● Birth Doula Certification AND ● Postpartum Doula Certification
International Childbirth Education Association (ICEA)	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● Birth Doula Certifications AND ● Postpartum Doula Certification
Mamatoto Village	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● Full Spectrum Labor & Postpartum Certification
MaternityWise	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● Labor Doula Certification AND ● Postpartum Doula Certification
Pathways Doula Training Program	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● Certified Birth Doula AND ● Certified Postpartum Doula
ProDoula	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● ProDoula Certified Labor Doula AND ● ProDoula Certified Postpartum & Infant Care Doula

Note: Any future additions to this list will be reflected in the Professional Services Provider Manual, which can be found online on the [Medicaid Provider Program Resources and Fee Schedules](#) page.

MCO Referrals and Reimbursement to Medicaid-Enrolled Doulas

As of June 27, 2024, the doula benefit is considered a self-referred benefit through December 31, 2025. All HealthChoice MCOs should treat doula services as a self-referred benefit, meaning that any doula enrolled in Maryland Medicaid and in good standing can receive payment from any MCO for services rendered.

MCOs should track members who enroll with a participating doula to ensure they have adequate capacity to service the eligible population. MCOs may require participating doulas to notify the MCO when a member has enrolled in their program.

Reimbursement Methodology

In October of 2022, CMS designated two HCPCS service codes for doula services - T1032 and T1033. At that time, the Department transitioned to these codes (see table below). Any services provided on or after 4/1/23 should be billed using the T- codes listed below.

Table 1: *Medicaid Doula Services Reimbursement*

Description	Service Code	Per Unit Rate	Place of Service Description	Place of Service Code to Use	Modifier to Use	Limitations
Prenatal service visits	T1032	\$16.62	Doula visit in home	04/12	None	4 15-minute units per service; 8 total units maximum
Prenatal service visits	T1032	\$16.62	Doula visit at doctor's office with client	11/50/22	None	4 15-minute units per service; 8 total units maximum
Prenatal service visits	T1032	\$16.62	Doula visit in community	11/99	None	4 15-minute units per service; 8 total units maximum
Prenatal service visits	T1032	\$16.62	Doula visit via telehealth	02/12	GT	4 15-minute units per service; 8 total units maximum
Attendance at delivery (flat rate)	T1033	\$800	Doula visit in hospital/L&D - in-person only	21/25	None	1 unit of service per delivery; cannot be delivered as a telehealth service and can only be delivered in a hospital or birthing center
Postpartum service visit	T1032 U9	\$19.62	Doula visit in home, in-person	04/12	None	4 15-minute units per service; 8 total units maximum
Postpartum service visit	T1032 U9	\$19.62	Doula visit in community, in person	11/99	None	4 15-minute units per service; 8 total units maximum
Postpartum service visit	T1032 U9	\$19.62	Doula visit via telehealth	02/12	GT	15-minute units per service; 8 total units maximum

Doula Reimbursement for Attendance at Births by Cesarean Section

Doulas can be reimbursed using code T1033 ‘Attendance at Delivery’ for births by cesarean section when the doula provides support in the hospital or birthing center before and after surgery, as medically appropriate.

HealthChoice and Fee-For-Service Reimbursement Methodology for In-Person and Virtually Provided Doula Services

Participating doulas must use the appropriate Service Codes and modifiers when submitting claims for reimbursement. The reimbursement period is based on the participant’s eligibility for doula services.

A participant is eligible from the date of enrollment with an approved doula until they have reached 180 days postpartum, or they have exhausted the max allotment of services, whichever comes first.

Providers may bill for services after each service is rendered using one of the codes specified in Table 1.

Doula Services Provider Enrollment

Doula providers who meet all the conditions of participation outlined in this Policy Transmittal are eligible to enroll in Maryland Medicaid as either an individual or group “Doula Provider” type through ePREP. For more information about Doula provider enrollment, including training webinars to support doulas, please see the MDH website at <https://health.maryland.gov/mmcp/medicaid-mch-initiatives/Pages/DoulaProviderinformation.aspx>. To enroll as a doula provider, please visit eprep.health.maryland.gov.

For questions related to this transmittal, please contact mdh.medicaidmch@maryland.gov.