



Provider Bulletin

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REVISED

Doula Services

Applies to: Doulas

Effective date: October 1, 2024

- **Doula Services**
- **Covered Services**
- **Eligible Providers**
- **Provider Enrollment Information**
- **Procedure Codes for MO HealthNet Billing**

Doula Services

Effective for dates of service on or after October 1, 2024, doula services are available to all MO HealthNet (Medicaid) enrolled pregnant women as preventive services when recommended by a physician or other licensed practitioner of the healing arts. This includes prenatal, during delivery, and throughout the 12-month postpartum period. Doula services provide a stable source of psychosocial support and education throughout the perinatal period and during the birth. Doula services utilize trained community-based doulas with the aim of improving a range of maternal and infant health outcomes by enhancing the participants relevant knowledge and encouraging healthy behaviors.

Doulas should obtain and keep on file a recommendation of doula services for each participant.

Covered Services

Doula services include a combined total of six (6) prenatal and postpartum support sessions, one (1) birth attendance, and up to two (2) visits (prenatal or postnatal) for general consultation on lactation.

Community navigation services (described below) that occur outside these billable visits may be billed up to ten (10) times total over the course of the pregnancy and postpartum period.

Doula Services include:

- Prenatal support sessions that promote health literacy and knowledge of what to expect during pregnancy and birth; what experiences are normal during pregnancy; how to relay concerns to providers; and providing information on topics such as nutrition, exercise, tobacco cessation, self-monitoring of existing health risks or conditions. A doula may attend the participant's obstetric (OB) visits in a supportive role, this would be considered a support session.
- Community navigation of social services and assistance programs include taking a community-based approach to connect expecting women and families with available resources, including understanding the services and supports available to pregnant and postpartum women on MO HealthNet (Medicaid) and facilitating access to those resources based upon an assessment of social service needs.
- Attendance and support during birth, including providing information about what to expect during birth; helping create a birth plan; and attending the birth to provide non-medical comfort measures, information, emotional support, and advocacy throughout the labor, including support of personal and cultural preferences regarding childbirth.
- Lactation education and support that includes any of the following: a session during pregnancy that is primarily focused on the health benefits of breastfeeding for both mother and infant; supporting the mother and infant immediately after birth to provide guidance and goal setting to promote breastfeeding; providing ongoing support education during pregnancy on the health benefits of breastfeeding; and providing ongoing general education and support and referral to licensed lactation professionals if/when services are needed.
- Postpartum support sessions that help women know what to expect, what is normal, how to relay concerns to providers; aiding the transition back to well-woman care, family planning, screening for postpartum depression; providing information on topics such as safe sleep, preventing unintended child injuries, nutrition, positive parenting skills; education about breastfeeding rights; and goal setting for the future including continuing education, finding employment and childcare, and transition to other insurance as needed.

Eligible Providers

To be eligible for participation in the MO HealthNet Doula Program a provider must be enrolled as a MO HealthNet (Medicaid) provider and must be at least 18 years of age. All doula providers must hold liability insurance as an individual or through a supervising organization.

All doula providers must be determined eligible in one of the following ways:

- Possess a current certificate issued by a national or Missouri-based doula training organization whose curriculum meets the guidelines in the Curriculum Definitions and Standards below.
- For doulas whose training came from another source, or from multiple sources, MO HealthNet will determine eligibility for reimbursement by verifying that an individual's training and experience satisfies the curriculum definitions and standards below through a public roster maintained by a statewide organization composed of doula trainers from

three (3) or more independent, well-established doula training organizations located in Missouri whose purpose includes validation of core competencies of trainings; currently MO HealthNet recognizes the Missouri Community Doula Council and the Missouri Doula Association.

Curriculum Definitions and Standards

- Curriculum covers a doula's role which includes breastfeeding support, perinatal mood and anxiety disorders, anticipatory care strategies, cultural competency, how to deliver perinatal education and support, how to increase client autonomy during birth, and how to support clients who may need additional care.
- Curriculum covers the importance of health-related social needs, including navigation of social services, trauma-informed care, and strategies specific to the community served.
- The student must successfully complete the training program and be deemed competent to provide doula services. Certification is attained after evaluation by a birth professional or trainer.
- Completion of at least six (6) continuing education unit (CEU) hours per year, or equivalent continuing education as specified by the training organization.

The national or Missouri-based doula training organizations currently recognized as meeting the curriculum standards are listed below:

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| • Academy of Childbirth Educators | • Doula Trainings International |
| • Birth Arts International | • International Childbirth Education Association (ICEA) |
| • Birthing Advocacy Doula Trainings | • International Doula Institute |
| • Birth It Forward Academy | • Jamaa Birth Village / Okunsola's Community Doula Training |
| • BirthWorks International | • ToLabor |
| • Childbirth and Postpartum Professional Association (CAPPA) International | • New Beginnings |
| • Childbirth International | • Small Moments Academy |
| • Common Sense Childbirth Institute | • Uzazi Village |
| • Doula Foundation Academy | • Virtuous Doula Training Academy |
| • Doulas of North America (DONA) International | |

Provider Enrollment Information

The Missouri Medicaid Audit and Compliance (MMAC) Provider Enrollment Unit is responsible for enrolling new providers in MO HealthNet (Missouri Medicaid) and maintaining provider records for all MO HealthNet provider types.

Providers must enroll with MMAC to be reimbursed for medical services provided to MO HealthNet (Medicaid) participants. Providers who participate in the MO HealthNet Program agree to accept MO HealthNet payment as reimbursement in full for any services provided to MO HealthNet participants. A participant cannot be billed for the difference between the MO HealthNet payment and the provider's billed charges.

For information on enrolling as a MO HealthNet provider, visit the [MO HealthNet Provider Enrollment Guide](#). For questions, contact the MMAC Provider Enrollment Unit at MMAC.ProviderEnrollment@dss.mo.gov or call (833) 818-1183.

Procedure Codes for MO HealthNet Billing

Once enrolled as a MO HealthNet provider, the following procedure codes are used by providers to bill for their services. The time requirement must be met for each service in order to bill.

Procedure Code	Procedure Code Description	MHD Service Description	Time Requirement	Limits Per Pregnancy	Reimbursement Rate
S9443	Lactation classes, nonphysician provider, per session	Lactation education and support session, including arranging referrals	30+ minutes	Two	\$50.00
S9445 TH	Patient education, not otherwise classified, nonphysician provider, group, per session	Prenatal session	60+ minutes	Six	\$75.00
S9445 TS	Patient education, not otherwise classified, nonphysician provider, group, per session	Postpartum session	60+ minutes	Six combined with prenatal sessions	\$75.00
S9482	Family stabilization services	Community navigation services	15+ minutes	In person or by phone; up to 10	\$25.00
T1033	Services performed by a doula birth worker, per diem	Attendance at labor and delivery	Up to 24 hours	One	\$800.00
T1032	Services performed by a doula birth worker, per 15	Attendance at labor and delivery	Above 24 hours	Up to 95 units (23h 45m)	\$5.00

	minutes				
T1032 52	Services performed by a doula birth worker, per 15 minutes	Attendance at a planned Caesarean Section (C-section)	Up to 24 hours	Up to 95 units (23h 45m)	\$5.00

Birth attendance, defined as continuous labor support and planned attendance of the birth, should typically be billed using T1033. When attendance at the birth exceeds 24 hours, T1032 may be used to bill additional time, up to 48 hours. Births lasting longer than 48 hours may be reimbursed subject to MO HealthNet medical review. Birth attendance may be billed for all deliveries except planned C-sections. **Time spent supporting the mother at the hospital before or after the C-section may be billed using T1032 52.**

T1032 may also be billed by a backup doula or in situations where false labor occurs on a date prior to the birth.

To be notified of additional trainings and updates, be sure to [subscribe](#) to [MO HealthNet News](#). For more information on MO HealthNet, visit the [Provider Information](#) page.

APPLICABILITY

The information in this bulletin applies to the MO HealthNet (MHD) Fee-For-Service (FFS) program and may apply to the MHD Managed Care (MC) program, as well. MHD's FFS policies set the basic coverage policies for benefits and limitations in the MC program. The MC health plans have additional flexibilities in operating their respective programs, such as determining which services require prior authorization and details required for claims submission. Certain services, such as pharmacy, are "carved out" of MC and will be paid through the FFS program. To ensure your understanding of this bulletin's applicability to each MC health plan, please [contact your health plan](#) directly. If you are unable to resolve a MC issue directly with a health plan contact a MC Liaison by completing a [Managed Care Provider Request for Information](#).

Bulletins will remain on the [MO HealthNet News](#) page only until incorporated into the [provider manuals](#) as appropriate, then moved to the appropriate [Provider Manual Archives](#).

Providers and other interested parties are urged to [subscribe](#) to [MO HealthNet News](#) email list to receive automatic notifications of provider bulletins, provider hot tips, provider manual updates, and other official MO HealthNet communications.

Before delivering a service, please check the patient's eligibility status by swiping their MO HealthNet card, calling the Provider Communications Interactive Voice Response (IVR) System at 573-751-2896 and choosing Option One or using the Participant Eligibility option in [eMOMED](#). Questions regarding MO HealthNet MC benefits should be directed to the patient's MO HealthNet [MC health plan](#).

[MHD Education and Training](#) offers interactive web-based training for providers and general and program-specific educational resources. Visit our [Provider Training Calendar](#) to register for an upcoming training.

Provider Communications
573-751-2896
 or via Provider Communications Management in [eMOMED](#)