BirthPro Advanced Standing Application

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BirthPro Doula Training & Family Education · birthpro.org · connect@birthpro.org

About this pathway

Advanced Standing lets trained and experienced birth workers earn BirthPro certification without starting over. Your training, client experience, and references are reviewed against BirthPro's competency areas, in line with our values of equity, integrity, and scope-appropriate care.

Certification fee: $500 flat, for every pathway and track. Payment plans are available on request; email connect@birthpro.org before booking. Your review begins once your fee is paid in full.

Timeline: most reviews take 2 to 3 weeks from the time you submit your packet.

What you receive:

- Full review of your application packet and client documentation
- One-on-one review call with Lorie
- BirthPro certification for your track: BCBD, BCPD, or CFSD
- BirthPro credentials to use after your name
- Lifetime access to the graduate mentoring community
- Ongoing access to BirthPro resources and continuing education
- Listing in the BirthPro Birth Support Directory (optional)
- Discounted liability insurance through Alternative Balance, if you don't already carry coverage
- Discounted Evidence Based Birth Pro membership, while codes last (through December 31, 2027)

Renewal: BirthPro certification renews every three years. Renewal requires 12 continuing education hours, with no renewal fee. Many states require a current certification for Medicaid providers, so renewing keeps you eligible to bill.

Fee policy: The application packet and all requirements are available before you pay, so you can see exactly what's involved first. The fee covers Lorie's review of your paperwork, client documentation, and references, so it's nonrefundable. If BirthPro determines Advanced Standing isn't the right fit for your background, your full fee becomes a credit toward any BirthPro training program.

Minimum standards

Every applicant must meet the standards for their pathway before certification is issued. Meeting them does not guarantee approval, and BirthPro may request additional documentation at any time.

Pathway A: Prior Training

- At least 20 documented training hours from a birth or postpartum training program
- Client experience since completing your training:
    - Birth track (BCBD): 3 births

    - Postpartum track (BCPD): 2 postpartum families
    - Full spectrum track (CFSD): 3 births and 2 postpartum families (one family can count toward both)
- Completed competency self-assessment, reviewed against BirthPro competency areas
- Current infant and adult CPR certification
- Two professional references, contacted by BirthPro
- Review call with Lorie

Pathway B: Experienced Practice

- At least 3 years of active practice as a birth or postpartum worker
- At least 15 client families supported
- Completed reflective portfolio, reviewed against BirthPro's competency rubric
- Current infant and adult CPR certification
- Two professional references, at least one a midwife, nurse, OB, or experienced birth worker colleague
- Review call with Lorie

Loss and fertility support: For the birth requirement, you may count up to 2 clients you supported through pregnancy loss (miscarriage, stillbirth, or other loss) or through IVF or other fertility treatment, regardless of outcome. Log them in your client log like any other client.

If your review shows a gap: you'll get access to the BirthPro modules that cover it, at no extra cost. Certification is issued once they're complete.

Older client work counts. For Pathway A, any client work since your training counts, however long ago. For Pathway B, client work from across your years of practice counts.

Step 1: Select your pathway and track

Pathway (check one)

- ☐ **Pathway A: Prior Training.** I completed birth or postpartum training through another organization. I may have certified, never certified, let my certification lapse, or hold a certification my state Medicaid program doesn't recognize.
- ☐ **Pathway B: Experienced Practice.** I have at least 3 years of active practice and substantial client experience, without formal training or certification.

Not sure which fits? Email connect@birthpro.org and we'll help you sort it out.

Certification track (check one)

- ☐ BirthPro Certified Birth Doula (BCBD)
- ☐ BirthPro Certified Postpartum Doula (BCPD)
- ☐ BirthPro Certified Full Spectrum Doula (BCFSD)

Step 2: Applicant information

Field	Your answer
Full legal name	
Preferred name	
Pronouns	
Email address	
Phone number	
City	
State of practice	
Zip code	
Website or social media (optional)	
CPR certification: provider and expiration date	

Step 3A: Prior Training (Pathway A only)

Skip this section if you selected Pathway B.

Field	Your answer
Training organization	
Year completed	
Total training hours	
Certification received, if any (include lapsed)	
Program website (if available)	

Training documentation. Attach whatever you have. Not every program provides a formal syllabus, and that's fine. (check all you're attaching)

- ☐ Certificate of completion
- ☐ Training syllabus or curriculum overview
- ☐ Program website with curriculum details
- ☐ Other documentation (handouts, course outline, reading list)

If your training organization no longer exists or documentation isn't available, email connect@birthpro.org before applying.

Client log. List each client you've supported since completing your training. Use month and year only, and leave out client names. You'll attest to its accuracy in Step 5.

Birth track: 3 births. Postpartum track: 2 postpartum families. Full spectrum: 3 births and 2 postpartum families (one family can count toward both). Up to 2 loss or fertility support clients may count toward births.

#	Month and year	Type of support (birth, postpartum, loss, or fertility)	Setting (hospital, birth center, home, other)
1			
2			
3			
4			
5			

Competency self-assessment. For each area, briefly describe your training or experience. Add pages if needed.

1. Labor support skills and comfort measures:
2. Informed consent and birth preferences:
3. Scope of practice and professional boundaries:
4. Communication with the medical care team:
5. Any gaps you're aware of in your training:

Step 3B: Experienced Practice (Pathway B only)

Skip this section if you selected Pathway A.

Field	Your answer
Years in active practice	
Total client families supported	

Client log. List at least 15 client families from across your years of practice. Use month and year only, and leave out client names. Up to 2 loss or fertility support clients may count. You'll attest to its accuracy in Step 5. Add pages if needed.

#	Month and year	Type of support (birth, postpartum, loss, or fertility)	Setting (hospital, birth center, home, other)
1			
2			
3			
4			
5			
6			

#	Month and year	Type of support (birth, postpartum, loss, or fertility)	Setting (hospital, birth center, home, other)
7			
8			
9			
10			
11			
12			
13			
14			
15			

Types of support you've provided (check all that apply)

- ☐ Hospital birth
- ☐ Birth center birth
- ☐ Home birth
- ☐ Cesarean birth support
- ☐ Postpartum home visits
- ☐ Pregnancy loss or bereavement support
- ☐ Fertility treatment support
- ☐ High-risk or complex pregnancy support
- ☐ Other:

Reflective portfolio. Write from your own experience. There are no wrong answers. Your portfolio is reviewed against BirthPro's competency rubric.

1. How do you describe your role and scope of practice to clients and care teams?
2. Describe a challenging situation you navigated as a birth worker. What did you do, and what did you learn?
3. How do you support a client whose birth experience differs significantly from their plan?
4. What areas of your practice do you most want to strengthen through BirthPro's curriculum?

Step 4: Professional references

Two references are required. Each should be able to speak directly to your work as a birth or postpartum worker. Pathway B: at least one must be a midwife, nurse, OB, or experienced birth worker colleague. BirthPro contacts references directly.

Reference one

Field	Your answer
Name	
Relationship to you	
Years known	
Email	
Phone	
What would you like them to speak to?	

Reference two

Field	Your answer
Name	
Relationship to you	
Years known	
Email	
Phone	
What would you like them to speak to?	

Step 5: Attestation

By signing below, I confirm that all information in this application is accurate and complete, including my client log. I understand that misrepresenting my training or experience may result in denial or revocation of certification. I agree to follow BirthPro's Code of Conduct and scope-appropriate practice standards. I understand that certification renews every three years with 12 continuing education hours.

Signature	Date

Step 6: Pay and submit

1. Save this completed application as a PDF, along with your training documentation (Pathway A) and a copy of your current CPR card.
2. Book your Certification Review at koalendar.com/e/advanced-standing-application-consultation.
3. Pay the $500 certification fee and upload your files in the booking form.

Need a payment plan? Email connect@birthpro.org before booking. Your review begins once the plan is paid in full.

What happens next

1. BirthPro reviews your packet and contacts your references.
2. You'll be contacted to schedule your review call with Lorie.
3. If your review shows a gap, you'll get access to the modules that cover it, at no extra cost.
4. You're certified. Welcome to the graduate community, and start your state's Medicaid enrollment.

Most reviews take 2 to 3 weeks from submission. Questions anytime: connect@birthpro.org