



Ohio Revised Code Section 4723.89 Doula certification.

Effective: October 3, 2023

Legislation: House Bill 33 - 135th General Assembly

(A) As used in this section:

(1) "Doula" means a trained, nonmedical professional who provides continuous physical, emotional, and informational support to a pregnant woman during any of the following periods, regardless of whether the woman's pregnancy results in a live birth:

(a) The antepartum period;

(b) The intrapartum period;

(c) The postpartum period.

(2) "Doula certification organization" means any recognized organization that the board of nursing considers appropriate.

(B) Beginning on the date that occurs one year after the effective date of this section, a person shall not use or assume the title "certified doula" unless the person holds a certificate issued under this section by the board of nursing.

(C) The board shall adopt rules in accordance with Chapter 119. of the Revised Code establishing standards and procedures for issuing certificates to doulas under this section. The rules shall include all of the following:

(1) Requirements for certification as a doula, including a requirement that a doula either be certified by a doula certification organization or, if not certified, have education and experience considered by the board to be appropriate, as specified in the rules;

(2) Requirements for renewal of a certificate and continuing education;



- (3) Requirements for training on racial bias, health disparities, and cultural competency as a condition of initial certification and certificate renewal;
 - (4) Certificate application and renewal fees, as well as a waiver of those fees for applicants with a family income not exceeding two hundred per cent of the federal poverty line;
 - (5) Requirements and standards of practice for certified doulas;
 - (6) The amount of a fine to be imposed under division (E) of this section;
 - (7) Any other standards or procedures the board considers necessary to implement this section.
- (D) The board shall develop and regularly update a registry of doulas who hold certificates issued under this section. The registry shall be made available to the public on a web site maintained by the board.
- (E) In an adjudication under Chapter 119. of the Revised Code, the board may impose a fine against any person who violates division (B) of this section. On request of the board, the attorney general shall bring and prosecute to judgment a civil action to collect any fine imposed under this division that remains unpaid.