



Ohio Revised Code

Section 4723.90 Doula advisory group.

Effective: April 9, 2025

Legislation: House Bill 238 - 135th General Assembly

(A) There is hereby established within the board of nursing the doula advisory group.

(B)(1) The advisory group shall consist of the following seventeen members:

(a) The following members appointed by the board of nursing:

(i) Three members representing communities most impacted by negative maternal and infant health outcomes;

(ii) Five members who are doulas with current, valid certification from a doula certification organization;

(iii) Two members who are public health officials, physicians, nurses, or social workers;

(iv) Two members who are consumers;

(v) Two members representing a doula certification program or organization established in Ohio.

(b) One member representing the commission on minority health appointed by the executive director of the commission on minority health;

(c) One member representing the department of health appointed by the director of health;

(d) One member representing the board of nursing appointed by the board of nursing.

(2) Both of the following apply to the board of nursing in appointing members to the advisory group pursuant to division (B)(1)(a) of this section:



- (a) A good faith effort shall be made to select members who represent counties with higher rates of infant and maternal mortality, particularly those counties with the largest disparities.
- (b) Priority shall be given to individuals with direct service experience providing care to infants and pregnant and postpartum women.
- (C) The member described in division (B)(1)(d) of this section shall serve as the advisory group's chairperson.
- (D) Of the initial appointments to the advisory group pursuant to division (B)(1)(a) of this section, half shall be appointed to a term of one year and half shall be appointed to a term of two years. Thereafter, all terms shall be two years.
- (E) The board of nursing, the executive director of the commission on minority health, and the director of health shall fill a vacancy as soon as practicable.
- (F) If requested, a member shall receive reimbursement of actual and necessary expenses incurred pursuant to fulfilling the member's advisory group duties.
- (G) Members may be reappointed for an unlimited number of terms.
- (H) The advisory group shall meet at the call of the advisory group's chairperson as often as the chairperson determines necessary for timely completion of the group's duties as described in this section.
- (I) The board of nursing shall provide meeting space, virtual meeting technology, staff services, and other technical assistance required by the advisory group in carrying out its duties.
- (J) The advisory group shall do all of the following:
 - (1) Provide general advice, guidance, and recommendations to the board of nursing regarding doula certification and the adoption of rules under divisions (D)(3) and (5) of section 4723.89 of the Revised Code;



- (2) Advise the board of nursing regarding individuals seeking to be eligible for medicaid reimbursement as state of Ohio certified doulas;
- (3) Provide general advice, guidance, and recommendations to the department of medicaid regarding the medicaid coverage of doula services required under section 5164.071 of the Revised Code;
- (4) Beginning two years after April 30, 2024, and annually thereafter, submit a report to the general assembly in accordance with section 101.68 of the Revised Code including the following information regarding the doula services provided pursuant to section 5164.071 of the Revised Code:
 - (a) The number of pregnant women and infants served;
 - (b) The number and types of doula services provided;
 - (c) Outcome metrics, including maternal and infant health outcomes.