



Medi-Cal Doula Benefit Stakeholder Meeting July 1, 2022

DHCS Benefits Division

Agenda

Agenda Items		
1	Welcome, introductory remarks, and logistics (10 minutes)	<ul style="list-style-type: none">•Lisa Murawski, Chief, Benefits Division•Deitre Epps, CEO, RACE for Equity
2	Updates on the SPA (25 minutes)	DHCS Staff
3	Recommendations for doula services (25 minutes)	DHCS Staff and CCAT Doula Representative
4	Break (10 minutes)	
5	Doula Directory (15 minutes)	DHCS Staff and CCAT Doula Representative
6	Qualifications for enrollment (25 minutes)	DHCS Staff and CCAT Doula Representative
7	Reimbursement rate communication (5 minutes)	DHCS Staff
8	Updates and Next Steps (5 minutes)	DHCS Staff

State Plan Amendment (SPA) Schedule

- » Share latest revision to the SPA today.
- » If there is general agreement on the language, publish a tribal notice in early July and public notice by July 31.
- » Formally submit the SPA to the Centers for Medicare and Medicaid Services in August after the 35-day public comment period for the tribal notice.

State Plan Amendment (SPA) Version 3

» [draft SPA Version 3](#)

» Addition of doulas as a provider for alterntative birth centers

Recommendations for Doula Services

- In 2014 federal regulations were updated to allow unlicensed providers to render preventive services when they are recommended by a physician or other licensed provider.
- “ ‘Preventive services’ ” means services recommended by a physician or other licensed practitioner of the healing arts acting within the scope of authorized practice under State law.”
(Section 440.130(c) of Title 42 of the Code of Federal Regulations)

Providers who could recommend doula services

- Physician
- Physician Assistant
- Nurse Practitioner
- Certified Nurse midwife
- Licensed midwife
- Registered nurse
- Licensed vocational nurse

Discussion question – Are services provided by doulas within the scope of licensed behavioral health providers?

Options for Recommendations

- » Written recommendation in patient's record
- » Standing orders for doula services by plan, physician group, or other group by a licensed provider
- » Standard form that beneficiary could give to doula

Doula Directory

- » Directory will provide a list of doulas approved by DHCS to render doula services to Medi-Cal beneficiaries.
- » DHCS is currently examining how to build the directory and will have more updates later.
- » Items for discussion
 - » Process to submit information and updates
 - » Frequency of updates
 - » Listing of languages

Doula Directory

Potential directory items for doulas enrolled in Medi-Cal:

- » Fee-for-service or managed care
- » County
- » Pronouns
 - » She/her
 - » He/him
 - » They/them
 - » Not reported

Doula Directory –Possible Languages for inclusion

- Arabic*
- Armenian*
- Cambodian*
- Chinese*
- English
- Farsi*
- Hindi *
- Hmong*
- Japanese*
- Korean*
- Laotian*
- Punjabi*
- Russian*

- Spanish*
- Tagalog*
- Thai*
- Vietnamese*
- Other (fill in blank)

Stakeholder recommended additions:

- *Chinese – Cantonese*
- *Chinese – Mandarin*
- *Other Chinese*
- *French Creole*
- *Samoan*
- *Tongan*
- *Twi*

*Threshold language for Medi-Cal statewide

Italics – Language suggested by Community Communications Advisory Team for inclusion

Doula Directory – Doula Services

- Full-Spectrum Doula Services
- Abortion Doula Support
- Postpartum Doula Support
- Birth Doula Support
- Antepartum (Prenatal) Doula Support
- NICU Doula Support
- Perinatal Loss/Grief Doula Support
- Lactation support

Doula Directory – Specialties

- » Adolescents/Teens
- » Foster Care System
- » Unhoused
- » LGBTQIA+
- » Refugee or immigrant populations
- » Substance use disorders

Qualifications for Enrollment

Items that all doulas would need to submit as part of their application:

Requirement	Evidence of completion
At least 18 years old	Copy of state issued identification
Adult CPR certification	Certificate of completion
Infant CPR certification	Certificate of completion
HIPAA Training	Certificate of completion
Ongoing training	
Continuing education – three hours in three years	Attestation by doula, maintained by doula

Qualifications for Enrollment

Items that all doulas would need to submit as part of their application for the training pathway:

Training pathway	Evidence of completion
16 hours of training in core areas, as identified in the State Plan Amendment	Certification of completion or syllabus and attestation of completion
Support at a minimum of three births	Attestation by doula

Qualifications for Enrollment

Items that all doulas would need to submit as part of their application for the experience pathway:

Experience pathway	Evidence of completion
5 years of experience	Attestation
Attestation of skills	3 written client or professional letters of recommendation

Reimbursement Rate Communication

- » Update on Budget Act of 2022
- » Rates
 - » Initial visit -- \$126.31
 - » Follow-up Visit -- \$60.48
 - » Labor & Delivery -- \$544.28
- » Services provided during miscarriage or abortion
 - » Rates to be determined

Next Steps

- » August – DHCS plans to formally submit final draft version of the SPA to CMS.
- » August – Share draft Provider Manual pages with stakeholders.
- » September – Share draft All Plan Letter with managed care plans
- » November – All Plan Letter issued
- » December – Provider Manual published

Future Stakeholder meetings*

- » July 28, 2:00 to 4:00 p.m.
- » August 24, 1:00 to 3:00 p.m.
- » September 30, 10 a.m. to 12:00 p.m.

**Dates subject to change*

Questions?

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Contact Information

» Written comments are welcome:

➤ DoulaBenefit@dhcs.ca.gov

» For more information:

➤ <https://www.dhcs.ca.gov/provgovpart/Pages/Doula-Services.aspx>