

# Illinois Medicaid-Certified Doula (IMCD) Program Quick Start Guide

The **IMCD Program** accepts applications for practicing doulas who wish to be certified by the state and recognized as a Medicaid provider. Are you interested in becoming a certified doula but have no training or experience? We encourage you to contact any of the agencies on the [Pre-Approved Training Organizations](#) list.

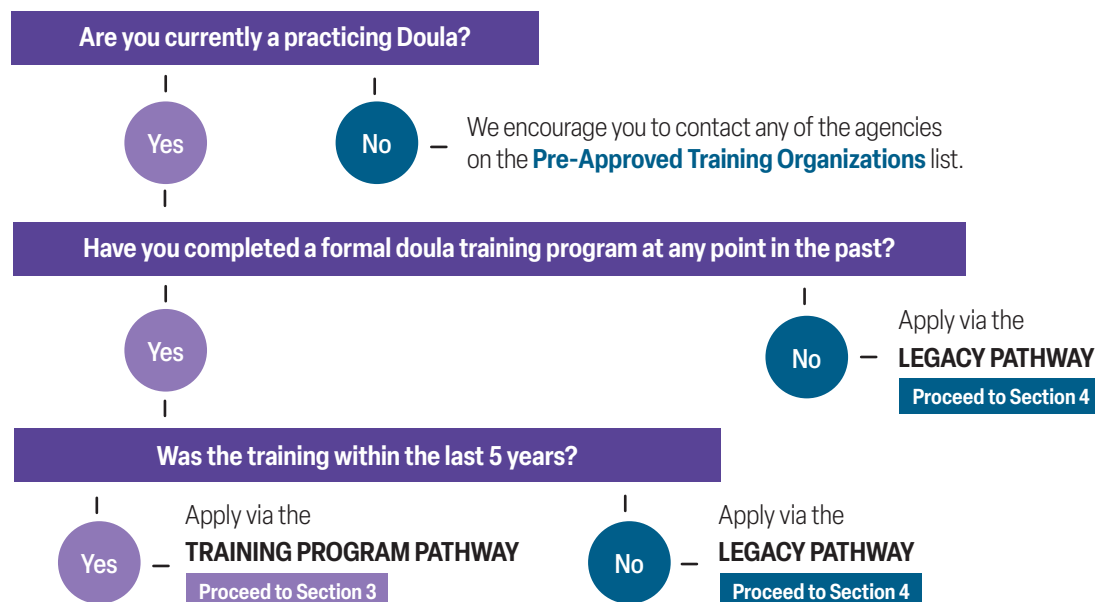


This Quick Start Guide provides applicants with basic information regarding the application process. Complete information, including the Scope of Practice and Code of Ethical Conduct, is found in the full Illinois Medicaid-Certified Doula Guide.

## SECTION 1: Terms to Know Before You Begin

<b>Application Pathways</b>	Practicing doulas have two options for applying: The Training Program Pathway and the Legacy Pathway. More information about which pathway you should choose is provided in Section 2.
<b>Common Requirements</b>	<p><b>All applicants</b> must show they have training in 5 common areas:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"><li>1. HIPAA rules applying to doula services</li><li>2. CPR or BLS (Basic Life Support)</li><li>3. Implicit Bias/Cultural Competency</li><li>4. Trauma-Informed Care</li><li>5. Anatomy and Physiology of pregnancy and birth</li></ol> <p>This training may be provided by a doula training organization or through stand-alone workshops or courses.</p>
<b>Experience Verification Form</b>	<p><b>All applicants</b> are required to have Experience Verification Forms submitted on their behalf. Think of this form as a reference letter. You will choose clients, healthcare providers, and/or doula mentors with whom you have worked to vouch for your abilities. This form is available online, and you will provide your references with the link.</p>
<b>Training Verification Form</b>	This form is relevant to applicants applying via the Training Program Pathway. This form is available online, and you will provide a staff person at your training organization (such as an instructor or director) with the link. The staff person then indicates the subject areas that their training provides and acknowledges you completed the program.
<b>Office of Certification Strategies</b>	The Office of Certification Strategies, which is based in the Southern Illinois University School of Medicine, manages the application process for the Illinois Medicaid-Certified Doula program.

## SECTION 2: Determine Your Application Pathway



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### SECTION 3: Apply Via the Training Program Pathway

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Is your training organization on the pre-approved training organization list?

Yes

No

Include these items with your application:

- The name of the organization on the application form
- Training verification form completed and submitted by the training organization
- Copy of Certificate received from the training organization
- Documentation of training in the 5 common areas attached to the application form (Required only if your training organization didn't cover all five areas)
  - JPEGs, Word document, PDF all work
- 3 references (clients, healthcare providers, mentor doulas) listed on the application form—**these births must have happened within the last year prior to applying**
- The Experience Verification Form completed by at least 1 reference

- The name of the organization on the application form
- Syllabus or detailed topical outline of curriculum attached to the application form
- Training verification form completed and submitted by the training organization
- Documentation of training in the 5 common areas attached to the application form (Required only if your training organization didn't cover all five areas)
  - JPEGs, Word document, PDF all work
- 3 references (clients, healthcare providers, mentor doulas) listed on the application form—**these births must have happened within the last year prior to applying**
- The Experience Verification Form completed by at least 1 reference

### SECTION 4: Apply Via the Legacy Pathway

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Include these items with your application:

- Documentation of training in the 5 common areas attached to the application form
  - JPEGs, Word document, PDF all work
- 5 references (clients, healthcare providers, mentor doulas) listed on the application form—**these births must have happened within the last three years prior to applying**
- The Experience Verification Form completed by at least 3 references



Don't have everything you need to apply or have questions?  
Email us at [doulacertification@siumed.edu](mailto:doulacertification@siumed.edu)