



BIRTHINGWAY COLLEGE OF MIDWIFERY
 12113 SE Foster Rd.
 Portland, Oregon 97266
 503.760.3131

APPLICATION FOR ADMISSION TO MIDWIFERY PROGRAM

Name: _____ Also known as: _____

Address: _____

City, State, Zip code: _____ E-mail: _____

Phone: _____ Other phone (work/cell): _____

Date of Birth: _____ Emergency contact: _____

Is English your first language? _____ Other languages spoken fluently? _____

Have you applied to Birthingway before? Yes No If so, when? _____

Are you Hispanic/Latino Yes No Are you a Nonresident Alien of the United States? Yes No

Race: (please select **one or more** of the following) -

American Indian or Alaskan Native Asian Black or African American Native Hawaiian or Other Pacific Islander White Other: _____

All of the information provided in this application for admission is true and accurate to the best of my knowledge. I understand that should I furnish false information, this may be grounds for my dismissal from Birthingway College of Midwifery. I have read and understood the Process for Application and the Technical Standards for Midwifery Integration.

Signature

Date

APPLICATION CHECKLIST: For admission to the class beginning in spring, each applicant must provide the following to the College postmarked no later than **October 15**. Check the boxes of items included with your application. **Please read full application instructions for details of requirements:**

- This completed application form. You must sign above.
- Responses to the application questions on additional paper.
- Two letters of reference addressing your suitability for midwifery training. These letters should be sent directly from the writer to Birthingway College of Midwifery and be postmarked no later than October 15. Fax or e-mail is acceptable provided signed, hard copies follow.
- A copy of your high school diploma or transcript, GED certificate, or equivalency certificate.
- Official college transcripts from all colleges attended.
- A copy of documentation confirming completion of an approved Labor Doula course or workshop.
- An official transcript documenting successful completion of a college level Human Anatomy and Physiology course(s), covering all the body systems, with a grade of 3.0 (B) or above. Human Anatomy and Physiology must be successfully completed, and Birthingway must have an official transcript, before December 31. Human Anatomy and Physiology may be taken at Birthingway or another accredited institution.

- An official transcript documenting successful completion of a college level expository writing course with a grade of 3.0 (B) or above. The writing course must be successfully completed, and Birthingway must have an official transcript by December 31. Writing may be taken at any accredited institution.
- A non-refundable application fee of \$50 in the form of a check or money order payable to Birthingway College of Midwifery.

If any of the above documents are not included, please list the following below:

- document status (in progress, in transit)
- anticipated date of completion or receipt by Birthingway
- If a prerequisite course is currently in progress, please list where this course is being taken.

Please provide the names, addresses, and phone numbers of at least two people, not related to you, whom you have asked to send reference letters on your behalf to Birthingway College of Midwifery.

1. Name: _____ Phone: _____

Relationship to applicant: _____

2. Name: _____ Phone: _____

Relationship to applicant: _____

Technical Standards for Midwifery Integration

Because a midwifery diploma from Birthingway signifies the holder is a midwife prepared for entry into active practice, candidates for graduation must have the knowledge, skills, attitudes, and judgment to function in a broad variety of clinical situations and to render a wide spectrum of client care. Therefore, the following abilities and expectations must be met by all candidates for admission to Birthingway and maintained through graduation. Students/applicants who have questions regarding these standards are encouraged to contact the Student Affairs Coordinator.

- Candidates must be able to observe demonstrations and experiments in the basic sciences, and to learn to conduct basic office lab procedures.
- Candidates must have sufficient use of the sensory, vision, hearing, motor and the somatic sensation necessary to perform a physical examination. Candidates must be able to perform clinical care activities such as palpation, auscultation, percussion, the administration of intravenous medication, the application of pressure to stop bleeding, the opening of obstructed airways and the movements, equilibrium and functional use of the senses of touch and vision. A complete list of required skills can be found in our Skills Assessment Checklist - contact our Student Affairs Coordinator.
- Candidates must be able to learn to respond with precise, quick and appropriate action in emergency situations.
- Candidates must be able to communicate in English with accuracy, clarity, efficiency, and sensitivity both verbally and in writing.
- Candidates must have the skills to analyze and synthesize information, solve problems, and reach diagnostic and therapeutic judgments.
- Candidates must be able to acknowledge evaluation and respond appropriately.
- Candidates must possess the interpersonal skills to develop rapport and positive relationships with clients, midwives, other care providers and with other students.
- Candidates are expected to possess the perseverance, diligence and consistency to complete the midwifery school curriculum. Candidates, therefore, must be able to tolerate physically taxing workloads, to function effectively under stress, to adapt to changing environments, to display flexibility, and to function in the face of uncertainties inherent in the clinical problems of many clients.

Process for Application to the Midwifery Program

More information about prerequisites

Students interested in Birthingway's Midwifery Program must have three prerequisites completed before admission.

Labor Doula workshop.

Applicants need not be certified doulas, but must have attended an approved workshop. Birthingway offers labor doula workshops each term. Other approved workshops include those offered by ALACE, DONA, Birth Arts, ICEA, and Birthworks. If you have taken, or plan to take, a workshop that is not offered by one of our approved organizations, please have the syllabus reviewed and approved by our Student Affairs Coordinator before application. We will not accept distance courses for our Labor Doula prerequisite.

Applicants must also have completed a college level **Human Anatomy and Physiology** course of at least 3 semester or 4 quarter credits that covers all of the body systems. Students must earn a grade of B or above in all sections of the course. For example, if you took a two semester course and earned a "C" the first term and an "A" the second term, you would have to retake the first term and earn a "B" or above before it could count as a prerequisite for Birthingway.

Finally, applicants are required to have taken a college level expository writing course, such as **English Composition**. Creative writing courses will not be accepted for the prerequisite. Again, applicants are required to have earned a grade of "B" or above in this writing course.

Written Application

Mail completed application packet including: signed application page, responses to the application questions, copy of high school equivalency documentation, transcripts and documentation of completed prerequisites, and \$50.00 application fee to Birthingway College Of Midwifery, 12113 SE Foster Rd, Portland, OR 97266. You may make a note in your application packet about expected time of arrival for letters of reference and for college transcripts. We recommend that you make a copy of your application for your records.

All completed applications postmarked by October 15 will be treated equally. Applicants are encouraged to call our office in advance of the deadline to confirm that we have received all of the expected items. Applicants will not be scheduled for an interview until the application is complete - except: If you are taking any prerequisites in the Fall, this will be noted in your file and will not put you at a disadvantage.

Members of the Admissions Committee, which includes students, faculty and staff, will read each application. The Student Affairs Coordinator will also review each file to determine if the prerequisites have been satisfactorily met.

Interview

Sometime between October 15 and the Meet and Greet (more on the Meet and Greet below) you will be scheduled for a formal interview. If you are from out-of-state, we will schedule your interview within a day or two of the Meet and Greet so that you do not have to make a special trip. The formal interview, conducted by three students and a staff member, is an opportunity for us to get to know you better and usually takes about an hour. During this same time period you should also be contacted by your "buddy." Your buddy is an enrolled Birthingway student who is available to answer your questions about the school on a more personal level.

Meet and Greet

It is highly recommended that you attend the Meet and Greet held each year the Friday before Thanksgiving. This is a casual opportunity for you to meet most of our enrolled student body, share a meal with us, and have another (less formal) interview with students, other applicants, and Birthingway faculty and staff. Although we do not require attendance at the Meet and Greet for admission, not attending can put an applicant at a disadvantage. Because of the consensual nature of our selection process, the more members of the Birthingway community who have had a chance to meet with you or speak with you, the easier it is for us to make an informed decision about our invitation.

Selection Process

After the Meet and Greet, once all applicants have been interviewed and all prerequisites are complete, the Admissions Committee will gather to make our final selections during the first week of winter term. The invitation list will be complete shortly thereafter, at which time we will mail out letters indicating whether applicants are on the initial invitation list, the waiting list, or not accepted at that time. Applicants who are invited to join the program will receive a letter detailing deadlines by which they must enroll. If any choose not to enroll we will begin to invite the applicants on the waiting list.

Please feel free to ask lots of questions. This process is as much for your decision-making as for ours.

Birthingway strives to foster an environment of diversity and acceptance and does not discriminate on the basis of race, ethnic identity, national origin, religion, marital status, gender, sexual orientation, age, disability, or socioeconomic status. Questions regarding this policy can be addressed to our Title IX Coordinator, Julia Reid, at the address and phone number above, or by contacting the Office of Civil Rights at 400 Maryland, SW, Washington D.C. 20202-1100, 800-421-3481.

QUESTIONS FOR MIDWIFERY PROGRAM APPLICATION

Using additional paper, please answer the following:

1. Describe, **in chronological order**, all education, employment, volunteering, homemaking, travel, and unemployed periods since high school. Include for each: the dates, location, type of experience, and reason for discontinuing.
2. What accomplishment in your life are you most proud of and why?
3. Please describe your personality, including both those qualities you perceive as strengths and weaknesses. Keep in mind that a “weakness” may sometimes manifest as a “strength” and vice versa. Give one example of how one of your strengths or weaknesses might manifest as its opposite. For example, talkativeness, which is welcome at a party, may be undesirable at a funeral.
4. Conflict is a normal part of human interactions. Describe an experience when you have dealt with an interpersonal conflict.
5. Give an example of a time when you made a commitment to something and saw it through from beginning to end.
6. What is your personal experience with birth?
7. Why do you want to become a midwife?
8. Explain how long you have been exploring midwifery and in what ways you have pursued it. Include books you have read, research you have done, workshops and courses you have taken, memberships in midwifery organizations, visits to Birthingway, etc. Please include dates and locations, if applicable.
9. The process of becoming a midwife is often intellectually, emotionally, and physically demanding. Clinical training requires diligence and the unpredictable schedule of a midwife necessitates freedom from other obligations. Relationships with friends, partner, and children can suffer. Describe in detail how you plan to meet the emotional and physical demands and stresses of midwifery training. How have you planned for the emotional, time, and financial burdens this education will place on you and your family? How do you plan to take care of yourself and those closest to you?
10. Why are you applying to Birthingway? How do you expect Birthingway to help you meet your midwifery educational goals?
11. Coursework at Birthingway is rigorous. For example, for each credit hour you take expect to study approximately 20 hours outside of class. What are some of your strategies for managing this type of academic load?
12. We attempt to build a diverse class with a wide range of varied backgrounds and experiences. Please describe an experience in which you had an interaction with someone very different from yourself.
13. Please give any other information about yourself that you think is relevant to your application.
14. **For re-applicants only:** What have you been doing since you last applied towards reaching your goal of becoming a midwife?