



Birthingway
College of Midwifery



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Birthingway is a nonprofit corporation authorized by the State of Oregon to offer and confer the academic degree described herein, following a determination that state academic standards will be satisfied under OAR 583-030. Inquiries concerning the standards or school compliance may be directed to the Office of Degree Authorization, 1500 Valley River Drive, Suite 100, Eugene, Oregon 97401.

Birthingway College of Midwifery meets or exceeds the current educational standards set by the Oregon Midwifery Council and the Oregon State Board of Direct Entry Midwifery. The college is accredited by the Midwifery Education Accreditation Council (MEAC).

MEAC: P.O. Box 984, LaConner, WA 98257
(360)466.2080 <http://www.meacschools.org>.

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Information within is accurate as of this date and subject to change without notice. For further information call 503.760.3131 or visit our website at www.birthingway.edu.

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Introduction

Thank you for inquiring about Birthingway College of Midwifery.

Established as Birthingway Midwifery School in March of 1993, the main purpose of the college is to train direct-entry midwives in a traditional midwifery model of care, using their intellect, senses, intuition, and judgment to integrate new medical approaches with age-old wise woman practices. Birthingway also offers certification programs for Labor Doulas, Postpartum Doulas and Childbirth Educators, as well as certification preparation for Lactation Consultants.

Birthingway's programs provide a balance of textbook and empirical knowledge, along with clinical skills emphasizing low-tech methods, in an environment of respect for the physical, psychological and spiritual dimensions of pregnancy, childbirth and the postpartum period.

Birthingway is institutionally accredited by the Midwifery Education Accreditation Council (MEAC). We are authorized by the State of Oregon to offer a Bachelor of Science in Midwifery degree.

Students who complete all of our midwifery program components should have achieved sufficient classroom and clinical knowledge to meet examination and experiential requirements for national (NARM) professional certification and Oregon state licensure as a direct-entry midwife. Such credentialing is not conducted by Birthingway. Other states may have different requirements.

Our Campus

Birthingway is located on the Southeast side of Portland, about one mile east of I-205 on SE Foster Road. Our two large houses offer multiple classrooms, a cozy community kitchen, a beautiful herb garden, and a wonderful library that contains an extensive collection of midwifery-related books and resources for students and community members.



Birthingway's midwifery library is unparalleled in the United States.



Our beautiful community kitchen....

About Midwifery

A midwife assists a woman in the childbearing year. This includes prenatal, birth, postpartum, and newborn care; in addition she can provide well-woman gynecology care, such as regular PAP smears and assistance with some forms of birth control. Traditionally, a midwife was female, often an older family member such as a grandmother or aunt. She was often also a general healer for the community. Midwives still practice in most traditional cultures, and in many "modern" countries such as the Netherlands. In the United States, the rise of the American medical system during the 20th century led to births in hospitals with obstetricians becoming the norm. However, the choice to use midwives is on the rise.

In the United States there are two types of midwives:

Certified Nurse-Midwives are nurses with hospital-based midwifery training; most CNMs practice in clinics and hospitals. For those interested in a career as a CNM, we recommend contacting the American College of Nurse Midwives (the national organization for CNMs).

Direct-Entry Midwives are specialists in birth outside the hospital, at home and in free-standing birth centers. The legal requirements for direct-entry midwifery education and licensing vary by state. In the United States, there is national certification for direct-entry midwives, but no national licensing. A Certified Professional Midwife (CPM) is nationally certified through the North American Registry of Midwives (NARM). If a midwife is licensed, it will be by the state(s) she practices in. Not all states offer licensing. In Oregon, midwives may choose to become a Licensed Direct-Entry Midwife (LDM).

Most direct-entry midwives are self-employed, providing care in a private office or at the client's home. Sometimes they work together at birth centers. Income varies depending on how many births a midwife attends, the area she lives in, what her fees are, and her expenses. A full-time midwife attending 3-5 births per month can expect to support herself and her family comfortably, but not lavishly.

About Doulas, Childbirth Educators, and Lactation Consultants

Birthingway offers certification programs for Labor Doula, Postpartum Doula and Childbirth Educators, and certification preparation for Lactation Consultants, as these disciplines fall within a direct-entry midwife's scope of practice.

Doulas assist women by providing physical and emotional support during labor (Labor Doula) or as a mother's helper postpartum (Postpartum Doula). A doula is not trained to provide health care for mother or baby. There are several organizations that offer workshops and certification for doulas. At Birthingway, we offer courses and certification for Labor Doula and Postpartum Doula, as well as a web page to facilitate matching doulas in our program with pregnant and postpartum women.

Childbirth Educators provide opportunities for pregnant women and their labor supporters to learn about the birth process, facilitate informed decision-making, teach techniques for natural childbirth, and offer ideas about basic newborn care. Childbirth Educators may work privately or may work for a hospital or other birthing center, providing classes for their clients. Birthingway offers certification for Childbirth Educators.

Lactation Consultants An International Board Certified Lactation Consultant (IBCLC) is a health care professional who specializes in the clinical management of breastfeeding. IBCLCs are certified by the International Board of Lactation Consultant Examiners. IBCLCs work in a variety of health care settings including hospitals, pediatric offices, public

health clinics, and private practice. Birthingway offers a program to prepare for taking the national IBLCE exam via one of the four approved routes. People interested in supporting breastfeeding in another capacity can choose to be certified as a Breastfeeding Counselor, and provide breastfeeding education and peer counseling.

The Biodynamic Model

Birthingway has developed a model of caring for women and families during the childbearing year and beyond. We refer to this as the biodynamic birth, in which birth is not only a natural part of human life, but a necessary part and one that is intimately connected with what it is to be human. The “bio” in biodynamic reflects the model’s grounding in biological processes, while the “dynamic” describes the power of genuine relationships based on trust. Biodynamic care is women-centered and individualized.

Biodynamic birth respects human physiology and thus advocates for the least amount of intervention while still protecting the well-being of the mother and baby. Intervention takes on different meanings depending upon the type of care provider; therefore, each of our programs develops specific tools for the various types of services our students will be providing.



Midwifery Programs

Certificate in Midwifery

Prerequisites: see Prerequisites for Midwifery Program

Certificate in Midwifery consists of:

49 credit hours in Midwifery Core Courses
26 credit hours in Midwifery Supplemental and Elective Courses
20 credit hours in Apprenticeship Credit
95 total credit hours of coursework

Students who do not wish to meet the General Education Requirement to receive the B.S.M. credential have the option of receiving a "Certificate of Midwifery."

To graduate with a Birthingway Certificate in Midwifery, students must meet the following requirements:

- Completion of all coursework (homework, class presentations, exams). See MIDWIFERY COURSES section for course listing
- Documentation of midwifery skills practice and assessment on College approved forms
- Demonstration of "Midwifery Integration," an oral exam that demonstrates the candidate's ability to weave together judgment, knowledge, skills, clinical assessment, decision-making, perceptions, and intuition into appropriate action plans
- Successful completion of written comprehensive exam; student may substitute NARM exam for the in-house exam
- Complete the "Completion of Graduation Requirements" form with an advisor
- Complete the "Application for Midwifery Certificate" and pay the graduation fee
- All financial obligations to Birthingway paid in full

Clinical requirements:

- Participant – 25 out-of-hospital births
- Participant – 5 hospital births
- Participant – 25 prenatal exams
- Primary Role – 25 births
- Primary Role – 75 prenatal exams, including 20 initials
- Primary Role – 25 newborn exams
- Primary Role – 40 postpartum exams
- Continuity of Care on 15 supervised primary clients

Bachelor of Science in Midwifery

Prerequisites: see Prerequisites for Midwifery Program

Bachelor of Science in Midwifery consists of:

30 semester credit hours of General Education (transferred in)
49 credit hours in Midwifery Core Courses
26 credit hours in Midwifery Supplemental and Elective Courses
20 credit hours in Apprenticeship Credit

125 total credit hours of coursework

The Midwifery Degree program consists of all the requirements of the Certificate in Midwifery (see above) and the following General Education Requirements:

General Education Requirements

To receive a Bachelor of Science in Midwifery degree, students must complete 30 semester credit hours or equivalent of General Education requirements. Students must document with an official transcript from an accredited college program, the following coursework with a grade of at least C/2.0:

- six semester hours of English Composition
- six semester hours of Humanities: language, literature, philosophy, religious thought, fine arts (not emphasizing performance skills)
- six semester hours of Social Studies or Sciences: anthropology, cultural geography, general history, religious history and culture, economics, political science, general psychology, sociology
- six semester hours of Natural Sciences: biology, biological physiology, chemistry, physics, geology and physical geography, mathematics
- six additional semester hours in any Humanities, Social Studies or Natural Sciences coursework

According to State of Oregon standards, liberal arts and sciences do NOT include “professional and vocational courses” such as agriculture and forestry, wildlife management, architecture and design, business and public administration, communication (journalism), computer technology, education, engineering and related technologies, health professions, home economics, law, library science, military science, parks and leisure studies, physical education and recreation, protective services, or religious services. Also NOT included are artistic performance or physical activity courses, nor practical and general information courses such as personal health, career planning, human relations, public speaking, writing, elementary mathematics, and computer fundamentals.

The above requirements are in semester credit hours. If you are transferring credits from schools using quarter hours, multiply the above requirements by 1.5. If you are transferring credits using other systems (units, clock hours, etc.), please contact the Student Affairs Coordinator for assistance in planning your program.

Length of the Midwifery Program

There is no time limit to complete the midwifery program, although your matriculation catalog and course credits may expire. Please see our Student Handbook for more details. Students must be continuously registered as a core or extension student from the date of matriculation to completion. The classroom portion of the program is designed to be completed in three years, by registering for the core, supplemental, and elective courses in the recommended sequence.

Clinical hours are acquired in a hands-on apprenticeship under the direction of an approved preceptor. Birthingway recommends that students begin apprenticeships in the first term of the second year. Students who begin an apprenticeship at that time, register for apprenticeship credit, and attend an average of two births per month, would be able to complete their clinical training requirement within the three year time frame.

While designed to be complete in three years, most students take longer to complete the midwifery program. Birthingway’s program is flexible, allowing students to individualize their educational path and take as long as necessary to graduate. The length of time it takes to complete depends on many factors including:

- whether the student attends full time or less;
- the size and availability of the type of midwifery practice desired as a preceptor site;
- personal life events, such as having a baby, getting married, etc.

Applying to the Midwifery Program

Admission to Birthingway is by application. Core class size is generally limited to 16, and prospective students are encouraged to apply as early as possible prior to the October 15 application deadline.

Prerequisites for Midwifery Program

The following prerequisites are required for admission into either the Bachelor of Science in Midwifery or Certificate of Midwifery program. You may take any of the prerequisite courses Birthingway offers while you are applying for our Midwifery Program. Acceptance into the program would be final pending successful completion and meeting pertinent grade requirements.

- Hold a high school diploma or equivalency
- Anatomy and Physiology Course - applicants must have completed an anatomy and physiology course of at least 3 semester credits (5 quarter credits) which **covers all of the body systems**, taken at an accredited post-secondary institution, and must have earned a grade of at least 3.0 (B). If you are transferring credits using other systems (units, clock hours, etc.), please contact the Student Affairs Coordinator for assistance in planning your program. If more than one section is taken in order to cover the entire human body, the grade earned in **each section** must be a 3.0/B or better. Courses from some vocational-technical schools (such as massage therapy, Chinese medicine, chiropractic and naturopathy) may meet this prerequisite. An official transcript must be provided. Birthingway offers "Human Anatomy and Physiology – Overview for Midwives", which will fulfill this prerequisite if you haven't already taken A&P.
- Writing Course - applicants must have completed a three credit college-level expository writing course, and received a grade of at least 3.0 (B). Creative writing will not be accepted as a prerequisite.
- Labor Doula Workshop - applicants must have completed an approved Labor Doula course or workshop. Birthingway offers an intensive Labor Doula Workshop which will fulfill this prerequisite. (See Labor Doula Programs) Other approved Labor Doula programs include ALACE, DONA, ICEA, Birthworks and Birth Arts Doula Program. For approval of additional programs, please contact the college. Labor Doula Certification is not a requirement.
- Meet Technical Standards for Candidates for Admission

Technical Standards for Admission Candidates

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 and maintained from matriculation to graduation by all candidates for admission to Birthingway. 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 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 provided by our Student Affairs Coordinator.
- Candidates must be able 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 be able to learn 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 college 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.

Submitting Your Application

Potential applicants are encouraged to observe a class at Birthingway, if possible, prior to submitting an application. They are also encouraged to attend our workshop, "So, You Want To Be A Midwife?" which is offered annually at Birthingway in late summer.

Applications must be post-marked by October 15. Late applications will only be considered for admission if space is available after all other applicants have been considered. We recommend that applicants keep a copy of the completed application.

A completed application includes:

- The completed Application for Admission to Midwifery Program, including your signature attesting that you meet the Technical Standards for Midwifery Integration.
- Answers to application essay questions
- Copy of high school diploma, GED, or equivalency certificate, or high school transcript
- Official college transcripts from any colleges attended
- Official transcript documenting completion of a Human Anatomy & Physiology course which meets all our requirements.*
- Official transcript documenting completion of a Writing course which meets all our requirements.*
- Documentation of completion of an approved labor doula workshop
- Two written letters of recommendation (from people not related to the applicant) sent directly to Birthingway. Faxed or emailed letters are acceptable provided that signed, hard copies follow.
- Any outstanding account balance must be paid in full
- \$50 application fee

*Students enrolled in classes to meet admission prerequisites at the time of application must provide an official transcript including the final grades no later than December 31.

Applications are checked for completeness. A letter is sent notifying applicants when all documentation has been received or if more information is needed.

Evaluation of Application

In evaluating applications, the following factors are considered:

- Completeness and clarity of the application
- Responses to the essay questions on the application
- Responses to interview questions
- Completion of all prerequisites including Technical Standards
- Time available to study, be available for clinicals, etc.
- Previous life experience which would contribute to the sensitivity and insight a midwife needs, and which demonstrate initiative, independence, and leadership
- Previous experience as a birth educator, health care provider, lactation consultant, doula, or birth assistant

- Previous study in midwifery, including attendance at midwifery conferences, workshops, meetings, apprenticeships, reading midwifery-related books and journals
- Academic training and coursework in areas related to midwifery, such as early childhood development, genetics, nutrition, child development, psychology
- Demonstration of commitment to midwifery as an autonomous profession through a history of membership and involvement in midwifery organizations and causes

After your application is received, you will be contacted to arrange an interview time and to set you up with a currently enrolled student who will be your "buddy" through the application process.

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.

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.

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 consensus-based 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.

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.

A high priority is placed on applicants currently residing in communities that need or desire midwifery services. People of color are encouraged to apply.

Birthingway College of Midwifery strives to foster an environment of diversity and acceptance. The College does not discriminate on the basis of age, race, ethnic identity, national origin, religion, disability, marital status, gender, sexual orientation, or socioeconomic status. Concerns regarding this policy can be addressed to the Title IX coordinator, Genevieve Neyland, 12113 SE Foster Rd., Portland, OR 97266, 503-760-3131, or by contacting the Office of Civil Rights at 400 Maryland, SW, Washington D.C. 20202-1100, 1-800-421-3481.

Midwifery Courses



Core courses are offered only to students admitted to the midwifery degree and certificate programs. The first year core courses focus on normal aspects of pregnancy, birth, and postpartum, including normal variations, as well as some basic deviations as they relate to identifying and managing “normalcy”. The second year expands upon the first year’s learning, and includes management of normal variations as well as care for complicated situations. The third year covers a variety of professional topics and skills.

Supplemental and elective courses are offered on a more flexible time frame and are available to the general public as well. They may be taken at any time. Supplementals are scheduled according to the recommended course sequence, while electives are scheduled as demand and opportunity allows. Completion of all supplemental courses and three electives is required to graduate.

Credit Hours

Our academic hours are semester credit hours. For classes, credit is calculated based on 45 hours of total student effort per one hour of credit, including a minimum of 15 hours of class time. Apprenticeship credit hours are calculated based on 30 hours of contact per one hour of semester credit.

Recommended Course Sequence

First Year of Midwifery Program

Spring Term

Core Classes

Antepartum (PTM211)	4 credit hours
Basic Skills I (PTM211s)	2 credit hours

Supplemental Classes

Medical Terminology (MT241)	1 credit hour
Understanding Statistics (ST241)	1 credit hour
Homeopathy (HOM314)	<u>1 credit hour</u>
	9 credit hours

Fall Term

Core Classes

Intrapartum (PTM212)	4 credit hours
Basic Skills II (PTM212s)	2 credit hours

Supplemental Classes

Breastfeeding I (BF241)	1 credit hour
Ethics for Midwives (ET441)	1 credit hour
Nutrition (NUT241)	<u>1 credit hour</u>
	9 credit hours

Winter Term

<i>Core Classes</i>	
Postpartum (PTM213)	3 credit hours
Basic Skills III (PTM213s)	1 credit hour
<i>Supplemental Classes</i>	
Breastfeeding II (BF242)	1 credit hour
Infancy (INF241)	1 credit hour
Elective of Choice	<u>1 credit hour</u>
	7 credit hours

Second Year of Midwifery Program

Spring Term

<i>Core Classes</i>	
Microbiology (MIC321)	3 credit hours
Microbiology Skills (MIC321s)	1 credit hour
Intro to Communication Skills (ICS321)	1 credit hour
<i>Supplemental Classes</i>	
Botanicals I (BOT321)	2 credit hours
Plant Medicine I (PM341)	1 credit hour
Elective of Choice	<u>1 credit hour</u>
	9 credit hours

Fall Term

<i>Core Classes</i>	
Well-Woman Gynecology (GYN321)	3 credit hours
Gynecology Skills (GYN321s)	3 credit hours
<i>Supplemental Classes</i>	
Botanicals II (BOT432)	1 credit hour
Plant Medicine II (PM342)	1 credit hour
Communicating With Integrity A (CWI341)	<u>1 credit hour</u>
	9 credit hours

Winter Term

<i>Core Classes</i>	
Complex Situations I (CS 321)	2 credit hours
Hematology Skills (HEM321)	2 credit hours
<i>Supplemental Classes</i>	
Other Modalities (MOD341)	1 credit hour
Plant Medicine III (PM343)	1 credit hour
Communicating With Integrity B (CWI342)	<u>1 credit hour</u>
	7 credit hours

In addition, we recommend 10 credits of apprenticeship during second year.

Third Year of Midwifery Program

Spring Term

Core Classes

Complex Situations II (CS432)	3 credit hours
Critical Care Skills I (CCS431)	3 credit hours

Supplemental Classes

Suturing (SU441)	1 credit hour
Midwifery Culture (MWC441)	<u>2 credit hours</u>
	9 credit hours

Fall Term

Core Classes

Psychosocial Issues (PSI431)	3 credit hours
Critical Care Skills II (CCS432)	2 credit hours
Research Methods (RSM431)	1 credit hour

Supplemental Classes

Human Genetics (GN441)	2 credit hour
Chinese Medicine (TCM341)	<u>1 credit hour</u>
	9 credit hours

Winter Term

Core Classes

Running a Midwifery Practice (RMP441)	2 credit hours
Practice Protocols (PP432)	1 credit hour
Critical Care Skills III (CCS433)	1 credit hour

Supplemental Classes

Pharmacology (PHM441)	1 credit hour
Research Project (RP441)	1 credit hour

Elective of Choice	<u>1 credit hour</u>
	7 credit hours

In addition, we recommend 10 credits of Apprenticeship during third year.

Course Descriptions

First Year Core Courses

Antepartum. (PTM211) 4 credit hours. Covers basics of antepartum care including pregnancy signs and symptoms, fetal environment, evaluating health, basic nutrition and pregnancy physiology, common challenges, toxemia, UTI, bleeding during pregnancy.

Basic Skills I (PTM211s) 2 credit hours. *Must be taken concurrently with Antepartum.* Skills include vital signs, head to toe physical assessment and universal precautions.

Intrapartum. (PTM212) 4 credit hours. Covers fetal evaluation, labor, psychophysiology of birth, facilitation of first, second and third stages, unusual situations including hemorrhage, and water birth.

Basic Skills II (PTM212s) 2 credit hours. *Must be taken concurrently with Intrapartum. Prerequisite: Basic Skills I.* Skills include sterile technique, abdominal palpation, fetal heart auscultation, client histories/charting, rebozo use.

Postpartum. (PTM213) 3 credit hours. Covers unique fetal anatomy and physiology, fetal transformation, newborn exam and age assessment, neonatal procedures, behavioral states, breastfeeding, neonatal complications, maternal assessment and care, maternal postpartum complications, postpartum emotional disorders.

Basic Skills III (PTM213s) 1 credit hour. *Must be taken concurrently with Postpartum. Prerequisite: Basic Skills II.* Skills include newborn physical and gestational examination, placenta examination, estimation of blood loss, birth tub setup.

Second Year Core Courses

Microbiology. (MIC321) 3 credit hours. Includes classification, microbial reproduction, transmission and control, immunology, diagnosis and treatment of infectious disease in pregnancy.

Microbiology Skills (MIC321s) 1 credit hour. Skills include use of a microscope, wet mounts, staining, cultures, sterilization techniques.

Introduction to Communication Skills (ICS321) 1 credit hour. Basics of speaking and listening using non-violent communication (NVC) approach with emphasis on group communication skills.

Well-Woman Gynecology (GYN321) 3 credit hours. *Must be taken concurrently with Gynecology Skills.* Includes sexuality, birth control and family planning, pelvic exam, breast health and exam, menstrual disorders, perimenopause and menopause, uterine and cervical abnormalities, myomata.

Gynecology Skills (GYN321s) 3 credit hours. *Must be taken concurrently with Well-Woman Gynecology. Prerequisite: Basic Skills II.* Skills include bimanual and speculum exams, Paps, cultures, cervical cap and diaphragm fittings, pelvimetry, breast exam, bladder catheterization, and wet mounts.

Midwifery Facilitation of Complex Situations I (CS321) 2 credit hours. *Prerequisite: Antepartum and Intrapartum.* Anemia, energy management, thyroid, vascular problems, fetal monitoring, asthma, HELLP, neurologic and dermatologic conditions.

Hematology Skills (HEM321) 2 credit hours. *Prerequisite: Basic Skills II.* Hemaglobin, hematocrit, glucose evaluations with in-office devices, and venipuncture including vacutainer, syringe, and butterfly devices.

Third Year Core Courses

Midwifery Facilitation of Complex Situations II (CS432) 3 credit hours. *Prerequisite: Antepartum, Intrapartum, and Midwifery Facilitation of Complex Situations I.* Covers PROM, pre-term labor, postdates and postmaturity, vaginal birth after cesarean (VBAC), multiple-gestation, unusual presentations, infant anomalies, emergency transport, death and grieving.

Critical Care Skills I (CCS431) 3 credit hours. *Prerequisite: Hematology Skills.* Skills include basic treatment of shock, I.V. and neonatal resuscitation.

Research Methods (RSM431) 1 credit hour. *Prerequisite: Understanding Statistics.* Tools, methods, and techniques for designing and implementing a research project.

Psychosocial Issues and Skills (PSI431) 3 credit hours. *Prerequisite: Antepartum, Intrapartum, Postpartum.* Includes cultural issues (family structures, literacy, working cross-culturally), clinical issues (sexual abuse, domestic violence, adolescent pregnancy, adoption).

Critical Care Skills II (CCS432) 2 credit hours. *Prerequisite: Critical Care Skills I.* Maternal resuscitation, continued I.V. skills practice.

Running a Midwifery Practice (RMP441) 2 credit hours. Covers business management and planning, legal concepts and requirements.

Practice Protocols (PP431) 1 credit hour. *Prerequisite: Midwifery Core except skills and research courses.* Covers charts, forms, consents, agreements, risk assessments and practice protocols for clinical midwifery practice.

Critical Care Skills III (CCS433) 1 credit hour. *Prerequisite: Critical Care Skills II.* Continued practice of all critical care skills with scenarios.

Supplemental Courses

Botanicals I (BOT321) 2 credit hours. Materia medica and herbal therapeutics of gynecological herbs and herbs for infants and children.

Botanicals II (BOT432) 2 credit hours. *Prerequisite: Botanicals I.* Materia medica for fertility, preconception, pregnancy, intrapartum postpartum, infancy and well-woman gynecology.

Breastfeeding I (BF241) 1 credit hour. Covers prenatal education and the normal course of breastfeeding.

Breastfeeding II (BF242) 1 credit hour. *Prerequisite: Breastfeeding I.* Covers breastfeeding problems and special situations.

Chinese Medicine (TCM341) 1 credit hour. Introduction to traditional Chinese medicine as a healing modality and its relevance to midwifery.

Communicating with Integrity A (CWI341) 1 credit hour. *Prerequisite: Introduction to Communication Skills.* Focuses on integrating the concepts of Nonviolent Communication (NVC) learned in Introduction to Communication into the student's apprenticeship and ongoing midwifery work. Students are given opportunities to bring NVC into their experience with clients and mentors.

Communicating with Integrity B (CWI342) 1 credit hour. *Prerequisite: Introduction to Communication Skills.* Focuses on integrating the concepts of NVC into relationships with midwifery partners, peers/colleagues and hospital personnel. Both these courses strive to offer opportunities for the student to deepen her understanding, practice and effectiveness in communicating with compassion.

Ethics in Midwifery (ET441) 1 credit hour. Problem solving ethical dilemmas that can occur in midwifery practice.

Homeopathy I (HOM341) 1 credit hour. Theory of homeopathic practice with applications to midwifery care.

Human Genetics (GN441) 2 credit hours. Covers basic genetics, genetic screening, and pregnancy counseling

Infancy (IN241) 1 credit hour. Covers newborn behavior, development, bonding and attachment and childraising from an ethnopediatric perspective.

Medical Terminology (MT241) 1 credit hour. Covers medical language, including vocabulary, abbreviations and translation of medical records into "normal" English.

Midwifery Culture (MWC441) 2 credit hours. Focus on attitudes and laws that have surrounded midwives and the practice of midwifery throughout history and contemporary times. Examines the role of midwives from ancient to modern times emphasizing politics of midwifery and how midwives have come together to bring about change.

Nutrition (NUT241) 1 credit hour. Overview of nutrition concepts, with a focus on pregnancy and breastfeeding or "childbearing year".

Other Modalities (MOD341) 1 credit hour. Introduction to a variety of alternative healing modalities including chiropractic, flower essences, hydrotherapy and aromatherapy.

Pharmacology (PHM441) 1 credit hour. *Prerequisite: Basic Skills II.* Legend drugs and devices used in midwifery practice, injection techniques.

Plant Medicine I (PM341) 1 credit hour. Identifying and harvesting herbs. Preparation of teas and tinctures.

Plant Medicine II (PM342) 1 credit hour. *Prerequisite: Plant Medicine I.* Topical applications. Preparation of herbal baths, salves and creams. Preparation of lozenges and suppositories.

Plant Medicine III (PM343) 1 credit hour. *Prerequisite: Plant Medicine II.* Preparation of syrups and elixirs. Creating herbal formulas and prescriptions.

Research Project (RP441) 1 credit hour. *Prerequisite: Research Methods, Understanding Statistics.* Definition of a topic, literature review, design and implementation of a research project, creation of a bibliography, and production of a research paper.

Understanding Statistics in Medical Literature (ST241) 1 credit hour. Basic concepts, types of medical literature, critical analysis, evidence-based studies.

Suturing (SU441) 1 credit hour. *Prerequisite: Basic Skills III.* Selecting materials and equipment, perineal evaluation, repairs of first and second degree lacerations, use of local anesthetics, episiotomy.

Elective Courses

Birth Stories in Life and Literature (BSL371) 1 credit hour. Read, write, and tell birth stories while learning and exploring effective storytelling techniques; use of stories as an educational tool.

Botany (BT471) 1 credit hour. Basic botanical concepts, classification systems and nomenclature, plant identification and constituents.

Childbirth Educator Training (CBE271) 2 credit hours. History of childbirth education, preconceptions about birth, build tools for developing childbirth education.

Homeopathy II (HOM472) 1 credit hour. *Prerequisite: Homeopathy.* More in depth look at homeopathic remedies, use of repertory and material medica.

Independent Study (IS471) 1 credit hour. Special project work with an advisor.

International Midwifery (IM371) 1 credit hour. Midwifery abroad: developing countries and industrialized states including legal, health, social, economic and political topics.

Introduction to Vibrational Healing (VI471) 1 credit hour. Discussion of vibrational medicine and how it relates to health and healing from our center outward to the planet. Course focus is on astrological medicine and gemstone energy work within midwifery. Didactic knowledge is integrated with experiential, hands-on learning and observation.

Massage for Midwives (MAS271) 1 credit hour. Psychology of touch. Introduction to basic massage techniques with emphasis on pregnancy and postpartum.

Postpartum Doula Training (PPD271) 1 credit hour. Scope of practice for postpartum doulas, hormones of the postpartum period and their effects, infant care, perinatal mood disorders, tools for supporting breastfeeding, how birth effects the postpartum period.

Primary Care of Infants (PCI471) 1 credit hour. *Prerequisites: Postpartum, Basic Skills III, Infancy.* Recognizing signs of infant illness for appropriate home treatment or referral.

Primary Care of Women (PCW471) 1 credit hour. *Prerequisites: Well-Woman Gynecology, Basic Skills II.* Signs and symptoms as tools for differential diagnosis and referral for midwives serving as primary care “gatekeepers” for healthy women.

Psychology of Childbirth (PSC471) 1 credit hour. Exploring women’s unique mental and emotional states during the perinatal year.

Spanish for Midwives (SPA371) 1 credit hour. Basic vocabulary and phrasing for midwives.

Apprenticeship Credit

The apprenticeship experience is a crucial part of midwifery education. The specialized training provided through apprenticing with an experienced midwife is a significant source of student knowledge which can’t be replicated in a classroom.

A total of 20 credits of apprenticeship with an approved preceptor are required to graduate. These credits may be divided under any number of terms, as appropriate to the student’s specific apprenticeship workload. At the time of registration for a term, students in an apprenticeship indicate if they wish to register for apprenticeship credit.

The student’s preceptor agrees to provide a minimum amount of appropriate work to the student during the registered term. Direct client care must constitute at least 75% of the work performed. The number of credits assigned for that term is determined by Birthingway based on a minimum number of hours worked: 30 hours of work equals one credit hour. The credit to be awarded cannot be retroactively adjusted.

While Birthingway makes every effort to assist students in locating an appropriate midwifery practice for apprenticeship, the College does not guarantee availability of an apprenticeship for every student. Due to the limited number of apprenticeship sites in Portland, Birthingway strongly encourages students to seek apprenticeships in other areas. Our Faculty Coordinator is available to help answer any questions students may have.

Tuition & Fees

Tuition and fees for the Midwifery Programs include but are not necessarily limited to the following:

Application fee (non refundable)	\$ 50
Enrollment Fee (non refundable)*†	\$150 upon initial enrollment
Registration Fee (non refundable)*	\$ 50 per term
Tuition – Academic Credit	\$460 per credit hour
Tuition – Apprenticeship Credit	\$ 85 per credit hour
Lab Fees (vary by course)	See registration forms
Client Care Documentation Eval	\$200
Comprehensive Exam Fee	\$ 75 if taken in house
Graduation Fee	\$100

*Enrollment and Registration may be canceled by giving written notice to the college. Should a student decide to cancel enrollment or registration in writing within three business days of signing the Enrollment Agreement or the Course Registration form, all fees are refundable in full.

†As a newly enrolled student, if you withdraw after the three day cancellation period but prior to attending any classes, no more than \$200 will be kept by Birthingway College of Midwifery.

Tuition and fees are subject to annual increases. Please anticipate a 7 to 10% increase each year.

Cost of Attendance

The cost to attend Birthingway is different for each year. The costs are based on the 08-09 academic year and are calculated based on our recommended course sequence. They may not match your actual costs of attendance.

	Tuition and fees	Texts, equip.	Total
1st year	\$ 11,805	\$1,614	\$13,419
2nd year	\$ 13,123	\$ 948	\$14,071
3rd year	\$ 13,465	\$ 859	\$14,324
Total	\$ 38,393	\$ 3,421	\$41,814

The cost to live in the Portland area is an estimated amount used to calculate eligibility for financial aid, and is approximately \$6,667 for room/board, \$2,484 for transportation, and \$3,922 for personal expenses per academic year. Individual student costs will vary depending on lifestyle choices and personal living arrangements.

Other Costs

Miscellaneous costs like copying, computer print-outs, CPR certification, etc. will also need to be paid by the student. Each midwifery program student is expected to take a turn in providing lunch for their core class, approximately once every 4-6 weeks, depending on class size.

Financial Aid

Birthingway College of Midwifery is authorized to offer Federal Student Aid (FSA, also called "Title IV Funds"). Birthingway currently participates in the Federal Pell Grant, Academic Competitiveness Grant, Federal Supplemental Educational Opportunity Grant (FSEOG), Federal Work-Study, Oregon Opportunity Grant, and Direct Loan (including subsidized and unsubsidized Stafford loans and PLUS loans) programs.

In addition to the Federal Student Aid programs, Birthingway is approved by the Oregon State Department of Education to train veterans and is listed as an eligible training provider with the Oregon Department of Workforce Development. As a Title IV school, we are authorized to accept payment through Americorps as long as the student submits a valid Voucher and Payment Request Form. Birthingway does not currently offer any institutional aid or non-federal/institutional work-study.

Financial aid is available only to matriculated Midwifery Program students. Students completing prerequisites or in our other programs are not eligible for Student Aid. We recommend that those interested in financial aid pick up a free copy of "Funding Education Beyond High School: The Guide to Federal Student Aid," published annually by FSA. This guide is a good general introduction to federal financial aid. Copies are available at Birthingway or online at <http://studentaid.ed.gov/guide>.

To apply for Federal Student Aid, complete the FAFSA (Free Application for Federal Student Aid). This may be done online at www.fafsa.ed.gov, or you can request a paper form by calling 1-800-4-FED-AID. If you fill out a paper FAFSA, you will need to enter Birthingway's Federal School Code of 036683 to ensure your application is flagged for Birthingway. If you have questions about filling out or submitting your FAFSA, please do not hesitate to contact us.



Pell Grants are available only to students with significant financial need who have not previously completed a baccalaureate degree. The maximum award (for full-time students with the greatest need) is \$4,731 for the 2008-2009 award year.

Some students may also be eligible for the **Oregon Opportunity Grant**, a state run aid program for Oregon residents without a baccalaureate degree. The Oregon Opportunity Grant award varies depending on your “self-help” contribution based on a state formula.

The **Academic Competitiveness Grant** is available to some Pell-eligible students who completed a rigorous secondary school program of study and graduated high school after 2005. Awards may be up to \$1300 per year.

The **FSEOG** program has limited funds and only a small number of students receive awards. Awards are currently set at \$200 per term.

Federal Work-Study is available to a very limited number of students. Awards are dependent on a number of factors, including student need, student availability, number of work-study positions available, and the amount of federal funds awarded to the school.

If, after grant and work-study awards have been determined, you still have financial need (as defined by federal formulas) and are attending at least half-time, you may be eligible for Stafford subsidized loans. With a subsidized loan, interest is paid by the federal government while you are in school at least half-time or in a deferment period. The annual award limit for subsidized loans varies between \$3,500 and \$5,500, depending on your year in school.

In addition to subsidized loans, unsubsidized loans are available. Unsubsidized loans are non-need-based aid. With an unsubsidized loan, the borrower is liable for all interest on the loan. Interest will begin to accrue immediately and will continue to accrue even when you're not in repayment. Unsubsidized loans are limited to the difference between the cost of attendance and the amount of other aid received. The annual award limit for unsubsidized loans varies between \$3,500 and \$12,500, depending on your year in school, dependency status, and the amount of subsidized loan received.

Other eligibility criteria also apply. For more information on these programs, please see “Funding Education Beyond High School” or Birthingway’s financial aid policy in the Student Handbook.



Childbirth Educator Program

The Birthingway Childbirth Educator Program was designed from the beginning with the biodynamic model of birth at its core.

Childbirth Educator Certification

Prerequisites: None

Birthingway offers a Childbirth Educator Certificate. Students must:

- Attend and successfully complete the Childbirth Educator Workshop
- Complete additional independent practicum work
- Apply to the Childbirth Educator Practicum program and pay a fee of \$50 (students enrolled in the midwifery program will not pay this fee)
- Document Childbirth Educator Practicum
- Request a certificate (good for four years) for a fee of \$100

Childbirth Educator Certification Program Fees

Workshop Fee	\$585.00
Application for Practicum Fee	\$ 50.00
Certification Fee	\$100.00

Program Requirements

To become a Certified Birthingway Childbirth Educator students follow a three step process:

Childbirth Educator Workshop

The workshop takes place over two weekends and can be taken as a stand alone class or as the first step toward certification. Throughout the nearly 40 hours of classroom time, there are many opportunities to:

- Learn the fundamentals of the biodynamic model of birth
- Explore our own preconceptions about birth
- Practice many forms of relaxation
- Produce our own birth art
- Brainstorm dozens of teaching tools and techniques
- Tell stories and share food

Independent Work

This phase includes designing a syllabus for your own class, reviewing a birth video and several books, and creating a community resources binder.

Student Teaching

Students are connected with a mentor childbirth educator who supports them as they facilitate their first series of childbirth education classes.

Childbirth Educator Program for College Credit

Students may choose to take the Childbirth Educator Program for two college credits. Students choosing this route will pay the current Birthingway credit price for two credits and will be required to complete additional work. If the student is enrolled in the midwifery program, the course may count as one of their required elective courses.

Students who are not taking the program for credit may take the workshop alone or choose to move forward toward certification, completing additional homework and a mentored teaching experience over the course of an additional 10 months. Students who are taking the workshop for credit MUST complete additional homework (see syllabus for the specific homework details), but may choose whether or not to certify by completing a mentored teaching experience. The additional homework must be completed before the end of the term in which they take the workshop. If they choose to certify, they will have an additional six months in which to complete their practicum.

Labor Doula Program

Birthingway continues to update our labor doula program. We have recently added a mentoring opportunity for labor doulas in our practicum program who want to work with a more experienced doula before attending births alone. In addition, we encourage practicum student labor doulas to attend births in pairs while in the program.

Labor Doula Certification

Prerequisites: None

Birthingway offers a Labor Doula Certificate. Students must:

1. Attend and successfully complete the labor doula workshop, "The Labor Doula: Assisting Women with Birth"
2. Apply to the Labor Doula Certification program for a fee of \$50 (Students enrolled in the midwifery program will not pay this fee)
3. Provide documentation of five labor doula births
4. Request a certificate (good for four years) for a fee of \$90

Labor Doula Certification Program Fees

Labor Doula Workshop Fee	\$425.00
Application Fee (non-refundable)	\$ 90.00
Certification Fee	\$ 50.00

Labor Doula Program Requirements

Labor Doula Workshop

The Labor Doula Workshop is offered several times yearly. It may be taken as a stand alone course, as the first step toward labor doula certification, and/or as a prerequisite for admission into the Midwifery Program.

The workshop is offered evenings or weekends to fit a variety of schedules. Topics include:

- Tools for emotional support

- How to provide continuity of care
- Supporting mom's process of telling her birth story
- Tools for physical support
- Breastfeeding support
- Running a doula business

Labor doulas in our scholarship program have additional requirements. Inquire with the Auxiliary Programs Coordinator or Auxiliary Programs Practicum Coordinator if you are bi-lingual (with English as your second language) and are interested in our scholarship program.

Practicum Requirements for Labor Doula Certification

Once the workshop is complete, student doulas can apply to the practicum program. Student doulas in the practicum program are required to attend and document 5 births, including some prenatal and postpartum visits. Students will receive mentor support for their first birth, and work independently for the other 4.

During this process, Birthingway provides a variety of resources to support and mentor our student doulas. Student labor doulas will be able to attend one birth with a more experienced doula during their practicum period. In addition, several experienced doulas are available for on-going phone or in-person mentoring support. Finally, we offer a facilitated support group for doulas to mentor and sustain each other.

Postpartum Doula Program

Our postpartum doulas follow a two step process for certification, including an intensive weekend workshop and a mentored practicum.

Postpartum Doula Certification

Prerequisites: None

Birthingway offers a Postpartum Doula Certification. Students must:

- Attend and successfully complete the postpartum doula workshop "Supporting Transition After Birth"
- Apply to the Postpartum Doula Certification program for a fee of \$50 (Students enrolled in the midwifery program will not pay this fee)
- Provide documentation for 15 hours of postpartum care for 3 families
- Request a certificate (good for four years) for a fee of \$90

Postpartum Doula Certification Program Fees

Workshop Fee	\$375.00
Application for Practicum Fee	\$ 90.00
Certification Fee	\$ 50.00

Postpartum Doula Program Requirements

Postpartum Doula Workshop

The workshop, which can be taken as a stand alone class or as the first step toward certification, takes place over one long weekend. Students are expected to complete readings before the class meets. During the workshop, students will learn about a variety of topics pertinent to the postpartum period, including:

- Scope of practice for postpartum doulas
- Hormones of the postpartum period and their effects
- Infant care
- Perinatal mood disorders
- Tools for supporting breastfeeding
- Various ways that birth effects the postpartum period

Practicum

If students choose to certify, they will be mentored by an experienced postpartum doula for up to half of the 15 hours of required postpartum doula care required for certification.

Postpartum Doula Program for College Credit

Students may choose to take the Postpartum Doula Program for one college credit. Students choosing this route will pay the current Birthingway credit price for one credit and will be required to complete additional work. If the student is enrolled in the midwifery program, the course may count as one of their required elective courses.

Students who are not taking the program for credit may take the workshop alone or choose to move forward toward certification, completing additional homework and a mentored practicum experience over the course of an additional 10 months. Students who are taking the workshop for credit **MUST** complete additional homework (see syllabus for the specific homework details), but may choose whether or not to certify by completing a mentored practicum experience. The additional homework must be completed before the end of the term in which they take the workshop. If they choose to certify, they will have an additional four months in which to complete their practicum.

Breastfeeding Counselor and Lactation Consultant Programs

Taking the biodynamic model of birth to its natural next step, Birthingway's Breastfeeding Counselor and Lactation Consultant Training Programs approach breastfeeding support with the same emphasis on physiologic processes and low intervention.

Birthingway offers two options for those interested in supporting breastfeeding:

- **Breastfeeding Counseling Certification**, in which a student takes classes with some skills elements but does not go on to sit for the International Board Certified Lactation Consultant (IBCLC) exam, administered by the International Board of Lactation Consultant Examiners (IBLCE). Students with this Birthingway credential may be interested in adding more breastfeeding knowledge to their labor or postpartum doula or childbirth educator business, or may want to teach breastfeeding classes or become a peer counselor for WIC or La Leche League.
- **Lactation Consultant Program**, which consists of all the necessary education and support to sit for the IBLCE exam, including coursework, academic counseling, and facilitation of accumulating lactation-specific clinical hours.

Breastfeeding Counselor Certification Program

For students who want to enhance their breastfeeding knowledge and support women and families as Breastfeeding Counselors, we have established a 3 part series of courses that will cover a variety of topics, and also includes some hands-on skills.

Breastfeeding Counselor Certification

Prerequisites: None

Students must attend and successfully complete three Breastfeeding courses listed below.

Breastfeeding Counselor Certification Program Fees

Fall Term	\$460.00
Winter Term	\$460.00
Spring Term	\$460.00

Additional course-pack or lab fees will be charged.

Program Requirements

Breastfeeding Course Work

Fall – Breastfeeding I (BF241) 1 credit hour. Covers prenatal education and the normal course of breastfeeding.

Winter – Breastfeeding II (BF243) 1 credit hour. *Prerequisite: Breastfeeding I.* Covers breastfeeding problems and special situations.

Spring – Breastfeeding III (BF243) 1 credit hour. *Prerequisite: Breastfeeding I and II.* Case studies and hands-on skills deepen students' knowledge of breastfeeding counseling. Continuation of lactation support skills designed to move students toward the IBCLC exam.

Additional CEUs will be offered each year to enhance students' knowledge and to keep them updated on the newest research.

Lactation Consultant Program

Students who would like to go on to become an International Board Certified Lactation Consultant (IBCLC) can complete all of the necessary components to meet the International Board of Lactation Consultant Examiners (IBLCE) requirements to sit for the certifying examination. We will support students as they work toward IBCLC certification through classroom hours, accumulating supervised and unsupervised lactation specific clinical hours with nursing and expectant mothers, and preparation for the certifying exam.

We offer 45 hours of breastfeeding education over 3 terms for 3 college semester credits. This means that in addition to the 45 contact hours, students will be doing approximately 90 hours of homework, including extensive reading, research, and case studies, covering all of the topics on the IBLCE Exam Blueprint.

Lactation Consultant Program Fees

Fall Term	\$460.00
Winter Term	\$460.00
Spring Term	\$460.00
Practicum Fee	\$300.00

Additional course-pack and lab fees will be charged.

Certain eligibility pathways may have additional fees, such as paying a supervisor. We also plan to implement a 1 year certificate program in the near future to meet the new eligibility requirements from IBLCE for a Lactation Specific Academic Program. Stay tuned!

Lactation Consultant Program Requirements

Students in the Lactation Consultant Program must complete all of the coursework listed above in the Breastfeeding Counselor section. In addition **students must:**

- Apply for the Lactation Consultant Practicum and pay the \$300 Practicum Fee
- Meet with the Auxiliary Programs Coordinator to develop a plan for which eligibility pathway the student will pursue, and for accumulating specific clinical hours
- Accumulate lactation specific clinical hours (number of hours, supervision status and other factors will depend on which eligibility pathway the student takes)

Practicum – Accumulating Lactation-Specific Clinical Hours

Students may be able to acquire their clinical hours throughout their education in a variety of ways. Birthingway offers individualized counseling to students to help them determine which eligibility route will be the best for them, as well as support in finding venues for accumulating these hours. An initial fee of \$300 will provide the student with individualized counseling to determine the appropriate route to accumulate hours, full access to the Birthingway Library, support in evaluating further education, and studying for and navigating the application process for the IBLCE Exam.

Please visit www.birthingway.edu and view our complete catalog online. If you have any questions about our programs, please let us know!

Academic Calendar

Spring Term Registration	2/1/08 – 2/29/08
Welcoming Reception / Orientation	3/31/08
Spring Term	3/31/08 – 7/3/08
Fall Registration	6/30/08 – 8/8/08
Summer Break	4/4/08 – 9/1/08
Fall Term	9/2/08 – 12/12/08
“So You Want to be a Midwife?”	8/2/08
Midwifery Program Application deadline	10/15/08
Winter Registration	11/7/08 – 12/5/08
Meet & Greet	11/21/08
Winter Break	12/13/08 – 1/4/09
Winter Term	1/5/09 – 3/20/09
Spring Break	3/12/09 – 3/29/09
09-10 Spring Term	3/30/09 – 7/2/09

Consumer Information

Under the **Campus Security Act**, Birthingway is required to compile and make available an annual security report showing statistics for crimes taking place on campus each year.

Under the **Student-Right-To-Know Act**, Birthingway is required to report annually on the completion (or graduation) rates for certificate and degree seeking full-time first-time undergraduate students. Statistics address whether or not these students complete their program within 150% of the normal time.

The above reports are available for free upon request. Please see the Birthingway website at www.birthingway.org/consumer_info.html or contact the Birthingway College office.

The **Family Educational Rights and Privacy Act (FERPA)** affords students certain rights with respect to their academic records. These rights are detailed on the FERPA website at: <http://www.ed.gov/offices/OM/fpco>. Further information is also available for free from the Birthingway College Office.

Guiding Principals and Philosophy

Birthingway College of Midwifery supports the midwifery model of care, which includes the following principles:

- Midwives are trained independent practitioners, who are specialists in natural, vaginal childbirth and in well-woman gynecological care.
- Pregnancy and birth are healthy processes, with a wide range of normal variations.
- Pregnancy and childbirth usually progress best without interference, which inevitably alters and frequently harms the reproductive process.
- Each woman and family is unique, and best served by individualized, non-routinized care.
- A midwife's role is not to manage, but to support, encourage and guide. A midwife does not empower women, rather she assists women as they empower themselves.
- Midwives provide continuity of care throughout the reproductive year, and integrated care for the woman, infant, and family.
- The focus of midwifery care is the childbearing woman and her family. Pregnancy and birth are major life experiences of the woman, not the birth attendant.
- Midwives honor and support a woman's right to make her own decisions. Active use of informed choice is an essential part of midwifery practice.
- Midwives believe in the intrinsic value of childbirth as a process, while simultaneously working toward the goal of a healthy mother and infant.
- Midwives strive to be inclusive and cooperative in their interactions with clients and peers, rather than oppositional or controlling, with knowledge shared freely.
- Midwives are best trained by other midwives. Hands-on learning should be a major component of midwifery education.
- While childbearing women and families are responsible for the outcomes of their own decisions, midwives have responsibility for maintaining a safe situation. Skills must be kept current and knowledge updated so that the midwife can optimally perform her tasks of overseeing the progress of pregnancy, labor, and postpartum; providing well-woman gynecological care; observing signs and detecting problems; promoting health and encouraging prevention; and utilizing midwifery knowledge and skills to rectify problems or consult/refer as appropriate.