

274 CMR 3.00: LICENSED CERTIFIED PROFESSIONAL MIDWIFE LICENSURE REQUIREMENTS

Section

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3.01: Purpose

274 CMR 3.00 sets forth the eligibility requirements and administrative procedures for licensure of licensed certified professional midwives who are licensed to practice midwifery in Massachusetts pursuant to M.G.L. c. 112, § 293, and the renewal of such licenses.

3.02: Licensure Requirement

No person shall practice midwifery in Massachusetts without a valid license issued by the Board of Registration in Midwifery unless they qualify for one or more of the statutory exemptions stated in M.G.L. c. 112, § 291(d). No person shall represent themselves to be a licensed certified professional midwife in Massachusetts unless such person holds a license issued by the Board of Registration in Midwifery pursuant to M.G.L. c. 112, § 293.

3.03: Licensure Eligibility

- (1) An applicant for initial licensure as a licensed certified professional midwife shall:
 - (a) be 18 years of age or older;
 - (b) be of good moral character;
 - (c) demonstrate successful completion of a formal midwifery education and training program, as evidenced by:
 - (i) a certificate of completion or its equivalent from a Midwifery Education Accreditation Council (MEAC) accredited program; or
 - (ii) a midwifery bridge certificate issued by North American Registry of Midwives (NARM) or successor credential, provided the applicant:
 - A. received such bridge certification on or after September 1, 2019 and completed a midwifery education and training program from an educational program or institution that is not accredited by MEAC; or
 - B. is licensed as a professional midwife in a state that does not require completion of a MEAC accredited midwifery education and training program;
 - (d) hold a current professional midwife credential from NARM or a successor organization;
 - (e) be a graduate of a high school or its equivalent; and
 - (f) have successfully completed the NARM certification examination or other examination approved by the Board.
- (2) Licensure by Reciprocity. The Board may license a midwife who holds a license in good standing in another jurisdiction, provided that jurisdiction requires qualifications and maintains standards substantially the same as those of Massachusetts for licensed certified professional midwives. An applicant for licensure by reciprocity shall:
 - (a) be 18 years of age or older;
 - (b) be of good moral character;
 - (c) be a graduate of a high school or its equivalent; and
 - (d) hold a license in good standing to practice as a midwife in another jurisdiction.

3.03: continued

- (3) Renewals. An applicant for renewal of a current license shall:
 - (a) satisfy requirements set forth in 274 CMR 3.03(1) or 274 CMR 3.03(2); and
 - (b) hold a current professional midwife credential from NARM or successor organization.
- (4) Temporary Licensure. Until such time as the Board is able to issue licenses pursuant to 274 CMR 3.03(1), the Board may grant a temporary license to an applicant who:
 - (a) is 18 years of age or older;
 - (b) is of good moral character;
 - (c) has completed a formal midwifery education and training, as evidenced by:
 - (i) a certificate of completion from a MEAC accredited program, or
 - (ii) a NARM midwifery bridge certificate or successor credential, provided the applicant received such bridge certification on or after September 1, 2019 and completed a midwifery education and training program from an educational program or institution that is not accredited by MEAC;
 - (d) holds a current professional midwife credential from NARM; and
 - (e) is able to comply with recognized standards of practice.

Temporary licenses issued pursuant to 274 CMR 3.03 may not be renewed. Once the Board begins issuing licenses pursuant to 274 CMR 3.03(1), it will not issue temporary licenses pursuant to 274 CMR 3.03(4).
- (5) The holder of a temporary license shall comply with the following:
 - (a) M.G.L. c. 112, §§ 290 through 297;
 - (b) M.G.L. c. 94C and 105 CMR 700.000: *Implementation of M.G.L. c. 94C*;
 - (c) 274 CMR 3.00: *Licensed Certified Professional Midwife Licensure Requirements*; and
 - (d) National Association of Certified Professional Midwives Standards of Practice.
- (6) The failure of a temporary license holder to comply with standards set forth in 274 CMR 3.03(5) constitutes grounds for discipline. The Board will conduct disciplinary proceedings in accordance with M.G.L. c. 30A and 801 CMR 1.01: *Formal Rules*.

3.04: License Applications

- (1) An applicant for licensure as a licensed certified professional midwife, or for renewal of a current license, shall complete the application provided by the Board for that purpose and shall pay the application fee.
- (2) The Board will not consider any application that has not been properly completed. All fees submitted under 274 CMR 3.04 are non-refundable and non-transferrable.
- (3) Any license issued pursuant to 274 CMR 3.03(1) or 274 CMR 3.03(2) shall expire on August 31st of odd numbered years. Temporary licenses issued pursuant to 274 CMR 3.03(4) are not renewable and will expire 180 days after applications for licensure pursuant to 274 CMR 3.03(1) and 274 CMR 3.03(2) are made available to the public.

3.05: License Retirement

- (1) A licensee who meets the eligibility requirements in 274 CMR 3.03 may submit a petition to the Board to request that their license be placed on retired status. A retired status is a non-disciplinary license status under which a licensee shall not practice licensed certified professional midwifery. The Board may review any petition for reinstatement or return to current status from any licensee whose status has been changed to retired status.
- (2) A licensee is eligible to submit a petition for retired status, if they:
 - (a) have a license that is not surrendered, suspended, revoked or otherwise the subject of disciplinary conditions at the time of the petition; and
 - (b) demonstrate that they intend to permanently retire from active practice in the Commonwealth.

3.05: continued

(3) A licensee with a retired status may not practice licensed certified professional midwifery in the Commonwealth.

(4) Nothing in 274 CMR 3.05 shall prevent the Board from initiating, pursuing or taking a disciplinary action against a licensee whose license is in retired status, including an action that imposes discipline or changes the license status from retired to revoked or suspended, if the Board determines that such action is in the best interests of public health, safety, or welfare.

3.06: Obligation to Report Status Changes

An applicant or licensee shall notify the board in writing of any of the following events within 20 days of their occurrence:

- (a) change of name;
- (b) change of email address of record;
- (c) change of mailing address of record
- (d) any disciplinary action against an applicant or licensee taken by any licensing authority of any jurisdiction or by NARM; or
- (e) any criminal proceedings in any jurisdiction where the applicant or licensee is named as a defendant.

3.07: Massachusetts Controlled Substance Registration

In order to purchase, possess, prescribe or issue medication orders, and administer such pharmaceutical agents as are consistent with the scope of midwifery practice and designated for that purpose in Board guidance, a licensed certified professional midwife holding a license issued by the Board pursuant to 274 CMR 3.03 must apply for and obtain a Massachusetts Controlled Substance Registration.

3.08: Legally Protected Health Care Activity

No person shall be denied initial licensure or denied renewal due to any complaint, criminal charge, conviction, judgment, discipline, or other sanction due to providing or assisting in providing reproductive health care services or gender-affirming health care services, as defined at M.G.L. c. 12, § 11I½, so long as the services provided would have been lawful in Massachusetts and are consistent with standards for good professional practice in Massachusetts.

3.09: Severability

The provisions of 274 CMR 3.00 are severable, and if any provision shall be in violation of any Federal rule or regulation or any Federal or Massachusetts law, such provision shall be null and void, and such violation shall not affect or impair any of the remaining provisions.

REGULATORY AUTHORITY

274 CMR 3.00: M.G.L. c. 112, §§ 290 through 297; St. 2024, c. 186.