

Midwives

This fact sheet outlines how to become licensed to work as a midwife in Manitoba.

Midwives are autonomous primary-care providers who provide care and advice to women during preconception, pregnancy, labour, birth and, for six weeks after birth, to both the new mother and the baby.

Most midwives are employed by Manitoba's regional health authorities (the government bodies that oversee health services in particular geographic areas). Midwives practise in hospitals, clinics, health units, community health centres, birth centres and in people's homes.

In Manitoba, the practice of midwifery is regulated by a professional association called the College of Midwives of Manitoba. The college is responsible for assessing qualifications and issuing the required professional licence. In order to legally practise midwifery in Manitoba you must be registered with the CMM.

Registration eligibility requirements

The College of Midwives of Manitoba has three "routes" by which you may become eligible to apply for registration in Manitoba. (**Note:** Candidates in each route must also fulfill the work experience requirements noted below.)

1. Interprovincial reciprocity

Midwives who are registered as general registrants in British Columbia, Alberta, Ontario or Quebec and who have been practising for at least one year may apply for registration in Manitoba.

OR

2. Graduation from an approved midwifery educational program

These are the programs approved by the CMM:

- Ontario Midwifery Education Program
- British Columbia Midwifery Education Program
- Manitoba Kanaci Otinawawasowin Education Program

OR

3. Prior Learning & Experience Assessment (PLEA)

PLEA is the means of assessing the knowledge and skills of foreign-educated midwives who wish to register to practise in Manitoba. (Note: The PLEA process is more complex than a credentials check. Details are below.)

Work experience requirements for all applicants for registration

In addition to the above requirements, everyone who wishes to apply for registration must have provided continuous care to at least three women during their clinical practice, and must have conducted at least then 10 births in the two years prior to applying for registration. You must also have:

- been in attendance at a minimum of 40 births and attended a minimum of 30 of these births as a primary midwife
- conducted a minimum of 75 antepartum examinations and 75 postpartum examinations
- conducted 15 initial newborn examinations and 50 newborn visits.

More information on the PLEA assessment process

The following summarizes the steps in the PLEA process. You are allowed three years to complete these steps. See the PLEA section of the [College of Midwives of Manitoba website](#) for details and to order the PLEA Applicant Handbook Package.

Step 1: You must submit to the CMM documentation that demonstrates that you meet the educational and work experience requirements, as well as English language proficiency. You must use the CMM PLEA application forms. The application assessment costs \$300.

Step 2: After your PLEA application is assessed and you are deemed to be eligible for entry to the PLEA process, you will be advised of written and clinical exam dates. The written exam costs \$800. The clinical exam costs \$2,000.

Step 3: You must attend a four-day orientation session that explains the healthcare system and practice of midwifery in Manitoba. It costs \$550.

Step 4: Once you have completed the above steps you may apply to register as a midwife with the College of Midwives of Manitoba.

After your application has been approved and you have paid the annual registration fee of \$1,400, you are issued status as a registered midwife and are permitted to practise in Manitoba.

Note: Conditions on practice, documentation requirements, fees and the assessment process and other rules and regulations are subject to change.

College of Midwives of Manitoba

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