

STATE OF RHODE ISLAND

aa. Doula Services.

1. Scope of services: A doula may provide services to a pregnant individual such as:
 - Services to support pregnant individuals, improve birth outcomes, and support new mothers and families with culturally specific antepartum, intrapartum, and postpartum services, referrals and advocacy;
 - Advocating for and supporting physiological birth, breastfeeding, and parenting for their client;
 - Supporting the pregnancy, labor, and birth by providing emotional and physical support with traditional comfort measures and educational materials, as well as assistance during the transition to parenthood in the initial postpartum period;
 - Empowering pregnant people and new mothers with evidence-based information to choose best practices for birth, breastfeeding, and infant care;
 - Providing support to the laboring client until the birth of the baby;
 - Referring clients to their health care provider for medical advice for care outside of the scope of doula scope of practice;
 - Working as a member of the client's multidisciplinary team; and
 - Offering evidence-based information on infant feeding, emotional and physical recovery from childbirth, and other issues related to the postpartum period.

2. Benefits: A member shall be allowed to utilize doula services at any point during pregnancy with proper documentation of a positive pregnancy test result. This also includes at home pregnancy screening. All visits will be documented and billed for reimbursement with the proper billing code as described in the provider manual.
 - A member is allowed up to three prenatal visits. Prenatal visits may include screening, case management and home health aide/certified nursing assistant.
 - Labor and Delivery shall be covered regardless of the duration of the birthing process. While labor and delivery of a live birth is the hopeful outcome, not all expectant mothers deliver a live birth. The postpartum period up to 12 months is the most critical time for a new mother whether a live birth occurs or not. Doula services pose an effective interdisciplinary solution for families during this timeframe. If a member's pregnancy does not result in a live birth, the allotted benefit amount remaining from prenatal and labor and delivery can be used towards postpartum and/or bereavement supports.
 - A member is allowed up to three postpartum visits.