

Doula Services Benefit



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As you Enter the Meeting...

- **Introductions:** Please place your name (with your title and organization, if you are affiliated with one) into the Chat box as we come in.
 - If you are a member of the Maternal Health Advisory Group, say so
- **Mailing List:** If you are not already receiving a calendar invite and email from dhcf.maternalhealth@dc.gov about DHCF Maternal Health Projects and wish to be on the list to do so, please send an email to that address.
- **Subgroups:** If you want to participate in Subgroups, sign up now! Link here and chat: <https://forms.gle/ZQoZCGKkCWqbA6ex9>
- **Meeting Recording:** This meeting is being recorded to assist DHCF staff –but unlike other meetings, we are not planning to post it publicly. Past recordings are available online
- **DHCF Website:** Please see the following website for information on maternal health policymaking at DHCF and for past and future meeting notice and recordings: <https://dhcf.dc.gov/publication/maternal-health-projects>

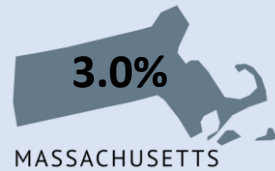
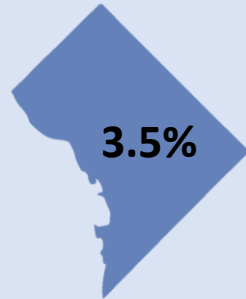
Presentation and Meeting Overview

- **Purpose of Meeting:** *Share DHCF's draft doula services benefit, collect initial stakeholder input on it, and share out expectations and next steps on maternal health projects.*
- **Meeting Agenda**
 - **Part I: Background on DHCF and Maternal Health Projects**
 - **Part II: Doula Services Benefit**
 - Covered Services
 - Visits
 - Perinatal and Delivery
 - Postpartum
 - Reimbursement
 - Calculation –Prenatal
 - Calculation- Labor and Delivery
 - Calculation -Postpartum
 - Incentive Payments
 - **Part III: Wrap up and Next Steps**

DHCF by the Numbers

Near universal coverage



DC has the second lowest uninsured rate

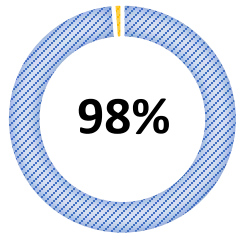


DHCF covers about 300,000 people

On average during 2021:

- 280,000 were in Medicaid;
- 20,000 in the DC Healthcare Alliance and
- 4,000 in the Immigrant Children's Program

4 out of 10 District residents 
7 out of 10 children 



Of all eligible DC children are enrolled in Medicaid

Health challenges remain despite coverage

12th in the nation

▶ For 911 call-volume

10% of residents

▶ Report delaying care due to not being able to get an appointment soon enough

Source: U.S. Census Bureau, 2019 American Community Survey 1-year estimates; DHCF Medicaid Management Information System (MMIS) data extracted in November 2021; Haley et al., "Progress in Children's Coverage Continued to Stall Out in 2018," Urban Institute, October 2020.

Authorization of Doula Services Through Medicaid

- D.C. Official Code § 3-1206.72, or the Budget Support Act of 2022 (BSA) requires DHCF to submit a Medicaid State Plan Amendment to the Centers for Medicare and Medicaid Services by September 30, 2022 that establishes doula services under the Medicaid program, effective October 1, 2022.
- DHCF is required to establish processes for billing and reimbursement of doula services “in consultation with organizations providing doula services and other relevant entities,” including:
 - Setting a reasonable number of doula visits to be reimbursed during the pregnancy and postpartum period.
 - Setting competitive reimbursement rates.
 - Developing program support and training for doula service providers on billing.
 - Assessing the viability of doula incentive payments for patient postpartum provider visits.
- The Maternal Health Advisory Group has held 2 meetings on doula services and the rates and reimbursement connected to them.
 - Meeting on doula services on March 7th
 - Meeting on doula services rates and reimbursement on April 25th
 - Follow up meeting held on May 16th to go into greater detail

Key Dates and Past Meetings on Maternal Health Projects

- **December 14, 2021:** Kickoff Meeting on Maternal Health Projects
- **January 6, 2022:** Due-date for Maternal Health Advisory Group applications
- **January 31, 2022:** Kickoff Meeting of the Maternal Health Advisory Group
- **March 7, 2022:** Maternal Health Advisory Group Meeting #2 –Doula Services
- **March 21, 2022:** Maternal Health Advisory Group Meeting #3 –Postpartum Extension
- **April 25, 2022:** Maternal Health Advisory Group Meeting #4 –Doula Services Rates & Reimbursement
- **May 16, 2022:** Doula Services Rate Setting Meeting
- **June 10, 2022:** Maternal Health Advisory Group Meeting #5 –Doula Services State Plan Amendment

- ***Thanks to your participation and input throughout this process, DHCF has collected sufficient input to present a draft Doula Services State Plan Amendment today***

NEXT SECTION: Doula Services Benefit Design

- **Purpose**

- Share out the draft doula benefit design and payment model for with stakeholders
- Get input on the design to inform DHCF's formal request to the federal CMS for approval to add doula services to the Medicaid program

- **Key Considerations for Today**

- The service design shared today is informed by input received at past meetings
- Final decisions about billing and reimbursement will be made according to available budget
- DC Health is creating licensing and training standards for doulas
 - Questions regarding scope of practice and training are not in DHCF's purview

DOULA SERVICES BENEFIT: Covered Services - Visits

- Proposal: Cover all services authorized in the Council's authorizing legislation for up to 12 visits.
 - The 12 visits would be able to be allocated by the client across the perinatal, childbirth, and the postpartum period
 - One (1) of those is an initial prenatal visit/consultation.
 - This consultation will ask clients when they want to use their visits and how many visits they will want to use
 - One (1) of those visits is attendance at childbirth

DOULA SERVICES BENEFIT: Covered Services –Prenatal and Delivery

- Proposal: DHCF will cover the following prenatal services and labor and delivery:
 - Prenatal counseling and education, including infant care, to prevent adverse outcomes.
 - Labor support and attendance during delivery, including the development of a birth plan.
 - Coordination with community-based services, to improve beneficiary outcomes.
 - Other nonclinical activities to support the beneficiary, consistent with District Law.

DOULA SERVICES BENEFIT: Covered Services –Postpartum Services

- Proposal: DHCF will cover the following postpartum doula services:
 - Visits to provide basic infant care;
 - Accompanying the beneficiary to a clinician visit;
 - Lactation support;
 - Emotional and physical support;
 - Self-care; and
 - Other nonclinical activities to support the beneficiary, consistent with District Law.

DOULA SERVICES BENEFIT: Reimbursement for Doulas

- Background: DHCF needs to set competitive reimbursement rates for doulas in a way that's consistent with DHCF's move toward a person-centered system, takes the structure and costs of doula work into account, and that create the least number of barriers for doulas and beneficiaries. Payments need to be set at an amount that will attract an adequate network of doulas.
- Proposal:
 - Proposed rates reflect the nature/construct of prenatal, labor & delivery, and postpartum visits.
 - Reimburse for prenatal doula services and labor and delivery attendance at a per-visit rate.
 - Reimburse postpartum doula services in 15-minute increments.

DOULA SERVICES BENEFIT: Draft Calculation for Prenatal Doula Services

Prenatal Doula Service Per Visit Rates		
Base wage	24.15	\$24.15
Productivity Adjustment	0.1	\$2.42
PTO & benefits	0.2062	\$5.48
Total Direct Staff Cost		\$32.04
Transportation cost		\$7.50
Program support	0.1	\$3.20
Admin	0.13	\$4.17
Training	0.05	\$1.60
Total Additional Cost		\$16.47
Rate per hour		\$48.51
Rate per visit		\$97.03

DOULA SERVICES BENEFIT: Draft Calculation for Childbirth Doula Services

Doula service rate for labor & delivery visit			
Base wage	32.20	\$32.20	
Productivity	0.1	\$3.22	
PTO & benefits	0.2062	\$7.30	
Total Direct Staff Cost			\$42.72
Transportation cost		\$2.50	
Program support	0.1	\$4.27	
Admin	0.13	\$5.55	
Training	0.05	\$2.14	
Total Additional Cost			\$14.46
Rate per hour		\$57.19	
Rate per visit		\$686.23	

DOULA SERVICES BENEFIT: Draft Calculation for Postpartum Doula Services

Postpartum doula service unit rate			
Base wage	24.15	\$24.15	
Productivity Adjustment	0.1	\$2.42	
PTO & benefits	0.2062	\$5.48	
Total Direct Staff Cost			\$32.04
Transportation cost		\$7.50	
Program support	0.1	\$3.20	
Admin	0.13	\$4.17	
Training	0.05	\$1.60	
Total Additional Cost			\$16.47
Rate per hour		\$48.51	
Per 15 minutes		\$12.13	

DOULA SERVICES BENEFIT: Incentive Payments

- Background: DHCF was required to get input from key stakeholders on whether to offer incentive pay if doula clients attend postpartum visits with their physicians
 - Heard from stakeholders at several meetings on the topic
 - We accepted stakeholder input and, *if implemented, DHCF will ensure the benefit will not exceed doula training and scope of practice*
- Proposal: **Pay flat incentive to doulas in instances where beneficiaries attend a postpartum obstetric appointment and doula visit within 6 weeks after birth.**
 - Postpartum Doula Services may include doulas attending visits with clients but that is not required to receive the payment
 - Goal is to increase postpartum visit rates
 - Hope to inspire conversations between doulas and clients on health services
 - Would be billed by doulas after both visits (by the doula and by the client and the obstetrician) to receive money

Feedback: Responses to Doula Services Benefit

- **Format**

- Please use the “raise hand” feature to speak
 - You need to put your hand down as it transitions to another subject
- Please limit your responses to 2 minutes

- **Logistics**

- Facilitator will call on those with hands raised
 - We may not be able to call on everyone on the subject
 - If you are having audio issues, if you did not get called on, or have more to offer beyond 2 minutes, please put your input into the Chat box
- Any responses beyond the realm of the Chat box and verbal responses can be submitted in writing to dhcf.maternalhealth@dc.gov

Expectations: Next DHCF Steps on Doula Service Development

- **After this meeting, benefit design details will be formatted into the required State Plan Amendment (SPA) format to seek Centers for Medicare and Medicaid Services (CMS) approval to make doula services payable through Medicaid.**
- **Draft SPA Will Be Posted to the Website Soon**
 - Please submit comments to dhcf.maternalhealth@dc.gov or melisa.byrd@dc.gov
 - Will be distributed to the maternal health email list
- **Final SPA Will Be Submitted to CMS by August 1, 2022**
 - Will be distributed to the maternal health email list
- **Draft Rule Will Be Posted to the DC Register by September 2022**
 - Rule will be open for public comments for 30 days.

Upcoming Topics for Maternal Health Advisory Group Meetings

- **Postpartum and Mental Health Subgroup, June 27th and July 18th**
 - Flier Development meeting on June 27th
 - Mental Health focused meeting on July 18th
 - Goal: inform system changes and health education that use and build on Maternal Health Projects work

- **Doula Enrollment and Billing Subgroup: August 8th**
 - Initiating this Subgroup when DHCF is closer to implementation
 - DHCF will hold trainings and release materials for doulas to enroll and bill
 - This Subgroup will help inform those trainings and materials
 - May hold more meetings beyond August 8th

Wrap Up

- Written comments on the Doula Services SPA are encouraged
 - dhcf.maternalhealth@dc.gov or melisa.byrd@dc.gov
- Calendar invites for the next 2 Subgroup meetings are going out just after the meeting

