

Midwifery Policy Collective Overview of Application Opportunity

- ➔ Are you passionate about expanding access to community-based midwifery model of care through local policy?
- ➔ Do you participate in a team that supports state-based policy change to improve perinatal health?
- ➔ Would you like support from a network of national partners to advance your policy goals?

The Opportunity: a 15-month initiative that will support a closed cohort of teams in their efforts to promote awareness among the public and policymakers about the value of community-based midwifery. Through tailored technical assistance, funding, and peer-to-peer support, participants will work toward advancing policies that improve perinatal care access and outcomes through the midwifery model of care and community birth.



What's Included?

- Tailored technical assistance—including support for capacity building, communications, engagement strategies, and other consultations—from experts representing the American Association of Birth Centers, Birth Center Equity, Birth Place Lab, Elephant Circle, Institute for Medicaid Innovation, National Association of Certified Professional Midwives, and National Association to Advance Black Birth.
- Shared learning opportunities (virtual and in-person).
- In-person, 2-day convening (fall 2026).
- A suite of curated resources and tools for advancing community-based midwifery.
- Opportunities for peer-to-peer collaboration with other state-based teams.
- Grant funds to support project implementation activities (\$50,000–\$150,000).

Key Dates

Informational Webinars:

April 2, 3:00–4:00pm (ET)
April 15, 12:00–1:00pm (ET)

[Register Here](#)

Eligibility Form Due:

April 17, 2026

Application Form Due:

April 27, 2026

Interviews with Applicants:

May 2026

Selection Announcements:

Early June 2026

Program Kickoff:

Late June 2026

Program Completion:

August 2027





Who Should Apply?

The initiative is designed for up to 10 local or state-based teams that can effectuate policy change at the state level. Teams should comprise multiple perspectives, including the following at a minimum:

- birthing people and families
- midwives of any credential who attend community-based births
- advocates

Additionally, teams are highly encouraged to include perspectives from state Medicaid agencies, policymakers, and health plans.

The Midwifery Policy Collective is inviting applications from teams within the following states:

Alabama	Maryland	North Carolina
Arizona	Mississippi	North Dakota
California	Nebraska	Ohio
District of Columbia	New Jersey	Pennsylvania
Georgia	New Mexico	Virginia
Illinois	New York	West Virginia
Kentucky		

If you are located elsewhere and would like to be notified of future opportunities, please complete this brief [interest form](#).



What Is the Time Commitment?

Applicants should expect to spend 5 minutes responding to an **eligibility form**, 1–2 hours completing an **application form**, as well as participate in a 45-minute virtual **meet-and-greet interview**. If selected, teams will be expected to attend tailored technical assistance meetings, three 1-hour webinars, and a 2-day in-person convening that will be held in fall 2026. Selected teams should also expect to provide periodic reporting on their progress.



Is There a Cost to Participate?

There is no financial cost to participate. If selected, teams will receive a travel stipend for the fall 2026 2-day in-person convening in addition to grant funding for project implementation activities.



What Should You Know Before Applying?

Eligibility

- Teams must include an organization with 501(c)(3) status or other tax status that enables receipt of grant funding.
- Individuals are not eligible to receive funding on behalf of their team.
- Separate applications from different teams within a state will be accepted. However, if multiple teams within a state are interested in applying, they are strongly encouraged to collaborate and submit a single application together.
- Funding provided through this opportunity cannot be used for lobbying activities, though we are committed to helping teams find other funding sources for lobbying needs.

Composition

- Teams may include, but are not limited to, the following perspectives: community-based organizations, midwives, individuals with lived and living experience, state Medicaid agencies, health departments, and health plans.

Capacity

- Though participation in the initiative is capped at 10 state-based teams, all applicants will have access to the initiative's resources and webinars.
- There is limited capacity to conduct interviews. Depending on the volume of applications received, only select applicants may be invited to proceed to the interview stage.

APPLY HERE

Starting March 27, 2026

Please contact Midwifery@MedicaidInnovation.org if you have questions.



The Midwifery Policy Collective is supported by the following stewarding organizations:

