



**Department  
of Health**

# **NYS Medicaid Doula Services Benefit July 17, 2023 Town Hall**

**Office of Health Insurance Programs (NYS Medicaid)  
Bureau of Maternal and Child Health Policy**

# Town Hall

Please note that by participating in today's online event, you acknowledge and consent that your personal information (such as name, image) may be visible to others in the live online meeting as well as captured in the recording, which will be posted on our website.

The feedback in the context of this meeting will not be considered formal public comment on the proposed State Plan Amendment.

# Goals and Roadmap for Today

**11:00-11:05 AM:** Introduction

**11:05-12:00 PM:**

- Review of Proposed NYS Medicaid Doula Enrollment Pathways
- Discussion

**12:00-12:55 PM:**

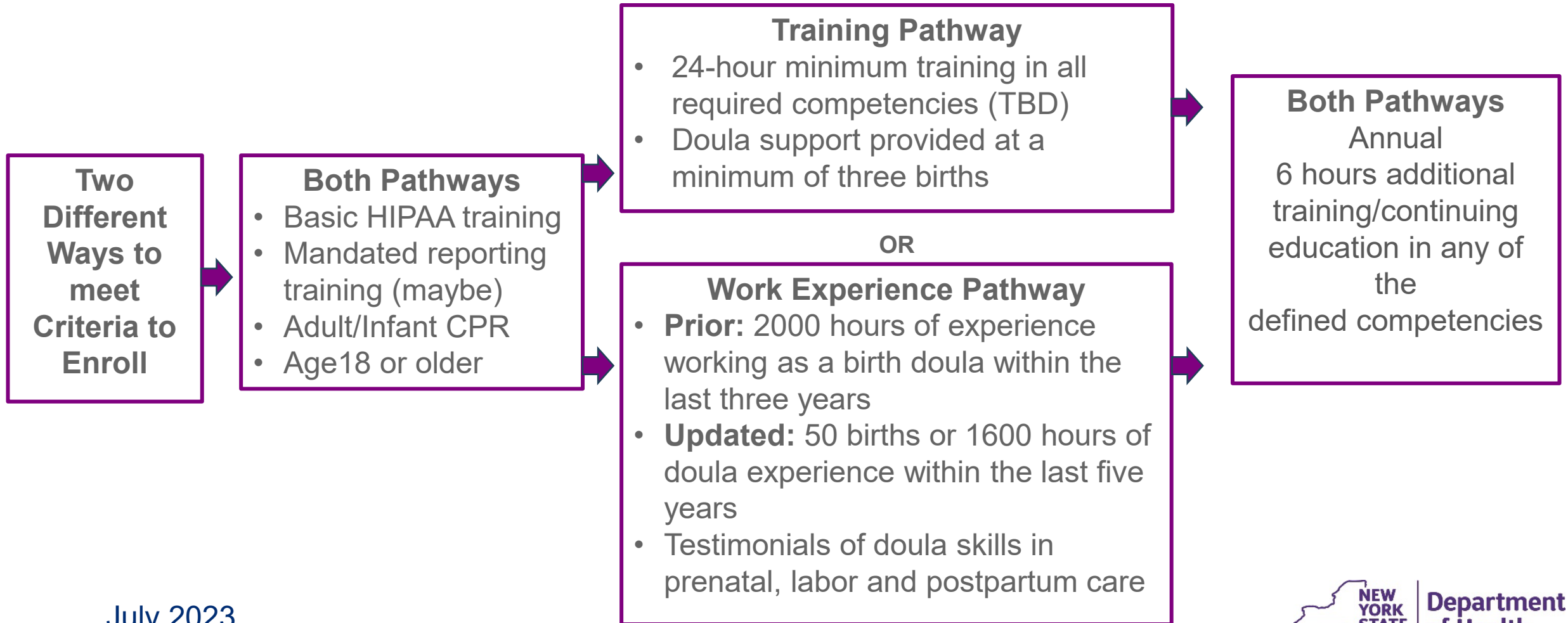
- Introduction of NYS Medicaid Proposed Reimbursement by Visit Structure Options
- Discussion

**12:55-1:00 PM:** Closing

# Guidelines for Sharing

- All are invited to speak at designated times
- Please use the "Raise your hand" function to note the desire to speak
- Individuals will be unmuted in order of request, unless they have already spoken, in which case individuals who have not yet spoken will be given priority
- Please keep comments to three minutes or less

# Follow-Up: Proposed NYS Medicaid Doula Enrollment Pathways



July 2023

# **Follow-Up: Proposed NYS Medicaid Doula Competencies for Training Pathway to Meeting Criteria for Enrollment**

## **20 Hours of Training in:**

- Foundations on anatomy of pregnancy and childbirth
- Labor support techniques and nonmedical comfort measures
- Common medical interventions: risks, benefits, and decision-making
- Prenatal and postpartum education and support
- Lactation support, education and infant feeding
- Scope of practice

## **Four Hours of Training in:**

- Cultural awareness/humility and cross-cultural communication
- Health equity in medical field, especially reproductive health
- Person-centered and trauma-informed care
- Community-based knowledge and facilitating connection to resources

# Follow-Up: Proposed NYS Doula Competencies for the Work Experience Pathway to Meeting Criteria for Enrollment

## Prior

- 2000 hours (average of 40 hours per client or 50 births) of doula experience within the last three years
- Testimonials of doula skills in prenatal, labor and postpartum care

## Updated

- **50 births or 1600 hours** (average of 32 hours\* per client) of doula experience within the **last five years**
- Testimonials of doula skills in prenatal, labor and postpartum care

\* "Overall, we estimate that SisterWeb doulas spend an average of 32 h providing care for a client receiving the standard course of care, including intake, prenatal visits, support during childbirth, and postpartum visits."

[Arcara, J., Cuentos, A., Abdallah, O., Armstead, M., Jackson, A., Marshall, C., & Gomez, A. M. \(2023\). What, when, and how long? Doula time use in a community doula program in San Francisco, California. Women's Health, 19, 17455057231155302.](#)

# Follow-Up: Background on Pathway Proposals

## National Medicaid Landscape:

- Most states offer only the training pathway to meet the criteria to enroll as a Medicaid doula provider
- Most states require doulas complete state-approved trainings
- Two states offer an alternative pathway for experienced doulas to meet the criteria for Medicaid enrollment:
  - California's "Experience Pathway" for doulas with five years of active doula experience completed within the last seven years
  - Oregon's "Legacy Pathway" for doulas who have attended at least 10 births and provided 500 hours of community work as a birth doula

## NYS Medicaid Proposing Offering Two Different Pathways to Enrollment so that:

- Experienced doulas do not have to re-train to meet criteria to enroll in Medicaid
- Barriers to doula Medicaid provider enrollment are reduced

July 2023



# Proposed Reimbursement by Visit Structure Options

Service Type	Service Amounts Reimbursed Options	NYC reimbursement rates	ROS reimbursement rates
Perinatal Service: Prenatal or postpartum doula support	Option 1: Up to 8 visits @ 30-mins/visit (4 hrs)	\$100/visit	\$90/visit
	Option 2: Up to 48 units @ 15 min/unit (12 hrs)	\$20.83/unit (\$83.33/hr)	\$18.75/unit(\$75/hr)
	Option 3: 3 prenatal <u>and</u> 3 postpartum visits @ 60 min/visit (6 hrs)	\$166.66/prenatal visit, \$133.33/postpartum visit	\$150/prenatal visit, \$120/postpartum visit
	Option 4: Up to 40 units @ 15 min/unit (10 hrs)	\$16.25/unit (\$65/hr)	\$14.63/unit (\$58.50/hr)
Labor and Delivery: In-person doula support during labor and birth	Option 1: Up to 1	\$600 (40%)	\$540 (40%)
	Option 2: Up to 1	\$400 (26%)	\$360 (26%)
	Option 3: Up to 1	\$500 (33%)	\$445.50 (33%)
	Option 4: Up to 1	\$750 (50%)	\$675 (50%)
Postpartum incentive: Accompany client to healthcare provider visit within 6 weeks of delivery	Option 1-4: Up to 1	Option 1-4: \$100/visit	Option 1-4: \$90/visit

# Closing Remarks and Next Steps

- You may continue to share input after today's event via email to [doulapilot@health.ny.gov](mailto:doulapilot@health.ny.gov).
- For more information, visit [New York State Medicaid Doula Services Benefit \(ny.gov\)](https://www.ny.gov/new-york-state-medicaid-doula-services-benefit).

**Thank you for your feedback.**

# Next Meeting

**Date & Time:** Friday, August 11 from 10:00 AM-12:00 PM

**Registration Link:** Will be sent via the list serve

**To be added to the list serve:** [doulapilot@health.ny.gov](mailto:doulapilot@health.ny.gov)

## Next Meeting Agenda:

- NYS DOH Office of Quality and Patient Safety Presentation with Q&A
- Follow-up:
  - Proposed NYS Medicaid Doula Enrollment Pathways
  - Proposed Reimbursement by Visit Structure
- Discussion Throughout

July 2023