

Midwifery Education and Certification

Statement of Policy

The American College of Obstetricians and Gynecologists (ACOG) facilitates the education and certification of midwives. One member of ACOG's Board of Directors is a certified midwife, and professional midwives are eligible to sit on the Board of Directors. The ACOG Midwives Committee oversees the education and certification of midwives. The International Council of Midwives (ICM) is the international organization that sets global standards for midwifery practice. The ICM Global Standards are the minimum requirements for midwives to practice in any country. The ICM Global Standards are based on the ICM Code of Ethics for Midwives and the ICM Code of Practice for Midwives.

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midwifery education and training here in the United States and the rest of the world.

The College supports people having a choice in determining who provides their care. The College specifically supports the provision of care by midwives who are certified by AMCB (or its predecessor organizations) or whose education and licensure meet the ICM Global Standards. The College does not support provision of care by midwives who do not meet these standards.

*The American Midwifery Certification Board (AMCB), formerly known as the ACNM Certification Council (ACC), was incorporated in 1991. The AMCB develops and administers the national certification examination for Certified Nurse-Midwives (CNMs) and Certified Midwives (CMs). CNMs are registered nurses who have graduated from a midwifery education program accredited by the Accreditation Commission on Midwifery Education (ACME) and have passed a national certification examination administered by AMCB. Certified midwives also have graduated from a midwifery education program accredited by the Accreditation Commission on Midwifery Education, have successfully completed the same requirements, have passed the same AMCB national certification examination as certified nurse-midwives and adhere to the same professional standards as certified nurse-midwives.

**International Confederation of Midwives. Essential Competencies for Basic Midwifery Practice (2010 as updated 2019). Global Standards for Midwifery Education (2010 as amended 2013). Many nations and global health organizations have endorsed the ICM standards and support bringing national health care systems and institutions in alignment with these standards.

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