



MIDWIVES IN CALIFORNIA: EDUCATION, REGULATION, SCOPE OF PRACTICE, AND CARE ENVIRONMENTS

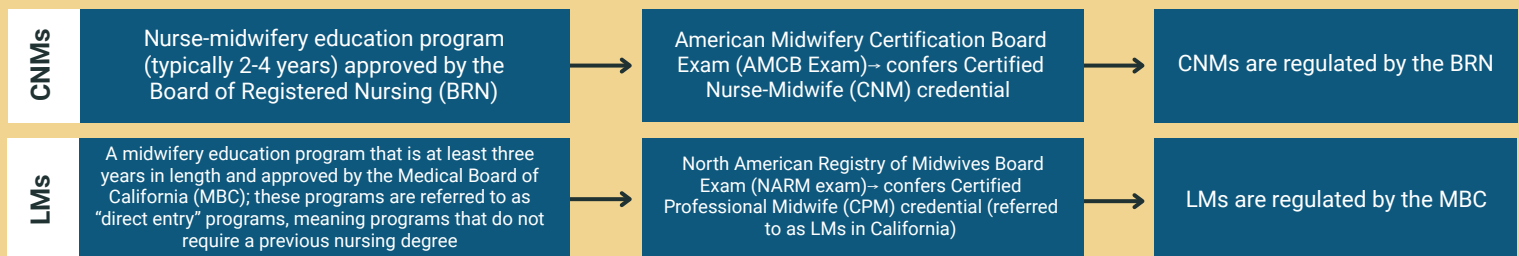
COMMUNITY BIRTH PARTNERSHIP INITIATIVE

Types of Midwives in California

- Certified Nurse-Midwives (CNMs)
- Licensed Midwives (LMs)
- Total number of midwives in CA (CNMs and LMs combined) = 1,600



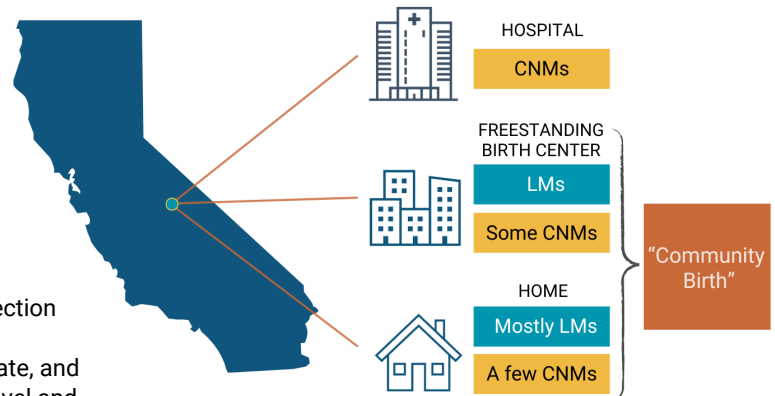
Education and Regulation



Scope of Practice

- Low-risk pregnancy, labor, and birth in hospitals, freestanding birth centers, and homes
- CNMs and LMs care for patients who meet the criteria of "low-risk" as defined by the Board of Registered Nursing and the Medical Board of California, respectively; CNMs and LMs are obligated to transfer-higher risk patients
- Management of "normal" changes of pregnancy, including miscarriage care; medication or aspiration abortion in the 1st trimester (CNMs only)
- Well-newborn care
- Well-person gynecologic care, including sexually transmitted infection (STI) care, contraception, and care during menopause
- CNMs and LMs are independent providers who consult, collaborate, and transfer care when necessary as indicated by the patient's risk level and medical conditions

Environments of Care in California



Mission of the Community Birth Partnership Initiative (CBPI)

The mission of CMQCC's Community Birth Partnership Initiative (CBPI) is to improve health outcomes during pregnancy and birth by increasing the quality and whole-person safety of hospital transfer processes, when a transfer is needed for a community birth. The Initiative also seeks to enhance integration between perinatal care systems that have traditionally worked in isolation from each other in California. CBPI is supported by funding from Skyline Foundation.

The initiative aims to improve maternal and neonatal outcomes by:

- Improving relationships and sustained collaboration between community midwives, emergency medical services (EMS), and hospital birth providers;
- Enhancing whole-person safety through co-design of policies for hospital transfer by community midwives and hospital providers;
- Ensuring safe, coordinated, respectful transfer of care;
- Improving understanding of community birth and reducing stigma around home and birth center births;
- Improving patient experience of transfer;
- Partnering with community-based organizations to expand stakeholder understanding of community birth, find opportunities for joint initiatives that meet our collective goals around community birth, and engage patients in telling their stories about community birth; and
- Utilizing transfer data to improve whole-person safety and quality of care.