

CERTIFIED NURSE-MIDWIVES IN ARKANSAS

Nurse-Midwifery in Arkansas

- Certified Nurse-Midwives (CNMs) have been practicing in Arkansas since 1975.
- CNMs in Arkansas practice in a variety of settings including hospitals, physicians private practices, CNM private practices, public health departments, and as faculty in nurse-midwifery distance-education programs.

Statistics

- There are approximately 22 CNMs practicing in Arkansas.
- There are currently 5 nurse-midwifery practice sites in Arkansas.
- In 2004, Arkansas CNMs attended approximately 186 births, which is 0.7% of all births attended in that state for that year.

Education

- There are currently 43 accredited education programs in the United States offering post-baccalaureate certificate and masters degree programs in nurse-midwifery and midwifery. A number of these programs have distance learning education options.
- Although there are no programs in Arkansas, there are post-baccalaureate certificate and graduate programs in nurse-midwifery in the neighboring states of Texas, Tennessee, and Kansas.
- For more information, see <http://www.midwife.org/map.cfm>.

Practice and Reimbursement Issues

- The Arkansas Advanced Practice Nurse Bill established licensure requirements for advanced practice nurses, including CNMs. Licensure for practice in Arkansas now requires national certification.
- Third-party reimbursement is not mandated in Arkansas. CNMs, however, receive reimbursement from most insurance carriers. The state Medicaid program reimburses CNMs at 80% of physician fee levels.
- Arkansas CNMs have the authority to prescribe medication if they demonstrate knowledge of advanced pharmacology and practice in collaboration with a physician.

This information was provided by the midwives of Arkansas.

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