

# ***CERTIFIED NURSE-MIDWIVES IN MASSACHUSETTS***

## **Nurse-Midwifery in Massachusetts**

- Certified Nurse-Midwives (CNMs) have been practicing in Massachusetts since 1977. The first CNM assisted delivery took place in Cambridge after CNM legislation passed enabling CNMs to practice.
- CNMs in Massachusetts practice in a variety of settings including hospitals, health maintenance organizations (HMOs), private health clinics, birth centers, and private practices.

## **Statistics**

- There are approximately 453 CNMs located in the state of Massachusetts.
- CNMs practice in cities and rural areas throughout the state including the Greater Boston area, greater Springfield, Worcester, Pittsfield, Northampton, Amherst, Greenfield, Cambridge, Holyoke, Fitchburg, Quincy, and Great Barrington.
- There are 342 nurse-midwifery practice sites in Massachusetts.
- In 2004, CNMs attended 10,434 births or 19.3% of all births in Massachusetts. Most of those births occurred in hospitals, while the rest were in a birth center or at home.

## **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.
- There is a post-baccalaureate certificate program in midwifery and nurse-midwifery at Baystate Medical Center in Springfield.
- For more information, see <http://www.midwife.org/map.cfm>.

## **Practice and Reimbursement Issues**

- Nurse-midwifery practice in Massachusetts is regulated by the Board of Registration in Nursing under the Nurse Practice Act.
- Massachusetts CNMs have had prescription writing authority since 1991.
- Massachusetts CNMs have mandatory third-party reimbursement for their services.

This information was provided by the midwives in Massachusetts.

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