



Home Birth: Resources for Payers and Policymakers

Policy Agenda to Expand Access to Midwifery Care



ACNM is working to significantly increase the number of professional midwives in order to meet the needs of the US maternity care system.

We welcome all stakeholders to further demonstrate their support for certified nurse-midwives (CNMs) and certified midwives (CMs) by working strategically with ACNM to address fundamental issues standing in the way of expanded access to cost-effective and high-quality midwifery care.

1. Elimination of state laws and regulations requiring physician supervision of CNMs and CMs or written collaborative agreements with physicians
 2. Development of equitable payment policies that reimburse CNMs and CMs the same as physicians for the same services.
 3. Increase the number of states that provide for licensure for CMs (currently, CMs are recognized in only 3 states)
 4. Construct a firewall to limit vicarious liability among autonomous health care providers
 5. Enact comprehensive health care reform and professional liability insurance reform.
- ❖ *ACNM urges payers and policymakers to develop coverage policies which encourage the use of CNMs and CMs.*
 - ❖ *ACNM urges payers and policymakers to work with ACNM and other stakeholders to identify and address maternity workforce issues that will impact women's future access to qualified care providers, and create a workforce plan that maximizes the talents and specialties of obstetricians, gynecologists, CNMs and CMs.*