Board-certified midwives include certified nurse-midwives and certified midwives, who are certified by the American Midwifery Certification Board. Board-certified midwives’ professional association is the American College of Nurse-Midwives.

Board-certified midwives’ practice authority is WAC § 246-840-300, which was most recently revised in 2022.

Board-certified midwives are regulated by the Washington State Nursing Quality Care Assurance Commission.

Washington’s midwifery education programs are located at Seattle University and University of Washington.
Washington Maternity Care Workforce Density

Washington’s maternity care workforce density is like the United States as a whole.

Washington’s midwife density meets the World Health Organization recommended minimum midwifery workforce size of 6 midwives per 1,000 births.
Midwife-attended Births in Washington

Change in Midwife Attended Births Over Time

- USA
- Washington
Births by Payer Source, 2022

Sources of Payment for Birth

- USA
- Washington
- Washington Midwives

Percent of Births Midwife-Attended by Payer, Washington 2022

- Other
- Self-Pay
- Medicaid
- Private Insurance
Births by Race or Ethnic Category, 2022

Race & Ethnicity Distribution of Births, 2022

Midwife-Attended Births by Race / Ethnicity
Births by Maternal Residence

Maternal Residence, 2022

Birth Attendants in Washington
Increasing the midwifery workforce size could help Washington:

• Increase access to early prenatal care
Washington Midwifery Regulation **Assets & Opportunities**

1. **Asset:** Midwives are licensed for independent practice (WAC § 246-840-300)
2. **Asset:** Midwives reimbursed at 100% the physician fee (WAC 182-531-1900)
3. **Opportunity:** Certified Midwives are not eligible for licensure
4. **Asset:** Midwives have independent prescriptive authority (WAC § 246-840-400)
5. **Asset:** Hospitals can appoint midwives to medical staff (WAC 246-320-010)