

Heritage School of Midwifery and Natural Health Sciences



Student Catalog

Volume SC-2025-26

The most recent version of this catalog can be found at

HeritageSchoolofMidwifery.com

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About Us

Introduction

Welcome to Heritage School of Midwifery and Natural Health Sciences (HSM).

We are passionate about ensuring that the rich heritage of midwifery continues to be passed on to the next generation. Midwifery is so much more than a job or career. It is a calling, a culture, a labor of love. We invite those who share our passion for childbirth to come learn the art of midwifery.

HSM offers three distinct pathways to support your journey in maternal healthcare:

Diploma in Midwifery (3-Year Program)

Our robust 3-year direct entry midwifery program includes hybrid format of asynchronous coursework, in-person skill intensives and clinicals through traditional preceptor model. Students observe and eventually assist a licensed midwife with prenatal, intrapartum, and postpartum care. Upon completing the midwifery program, students will receive a diploma, and are qualified to become a Florida Licensed Midwife (LM) or Certified Professional Midwife (CPM) by taking and passing an exam administered by the North American Registry of Midwives (NARM).

Bachelor of Science in Midwifery (BSM)

Designed for licensed midwives (LMs) and/or Certified Professional Midwives (CPMs), our Bachelor of Science in Midwifery advances professional standing to the bachelor's level. This fully online program accepts up to 90 transfer credits and requires 30 upper-division credits, preparing midwives for leadership roles in education, advocacy, global maternal health, and expanded practice pathways.

Certificate in Maternal Health Medical Assisting (CMHMA)

Our 8-month certificate program prepares students to provide critical support in maternal and newborn healthcare settings. Graduates are equipped to work as medical assistants in physician's offices, birth centers, and maternal health clinics, with specialized training in women's and infant health. Students are also prepared to work as midwifery/birth assistants and can transition seamlessly into HSM's midwifery programs with advanced standing.

The Midwives Model of Care™

At HSM, we teach our students to use the Midwives Model of Care™[1] with their clients. The Midwives Model of Care™ is all about nurturing, holistic care of pregnant women. The Midwives Model of Care™ includes:

- Monitoring the physical, psychological and social well-being of the mother throughout the childbearing cycle
- Providing the mother with individualized education, counseling, and prenatal care, continuous hands-on assistance during labor and delivery, and postpartum support

[1] Copyright © 1996-2015, Midwifery Task Force, Inc., All Rights Reserved. Used with permission. HSM is not affiliated with Midwifery Task Force, Inc.

- Minimizing interventions and
- Identifying and referring women who require obstetrical attention

Our Commitment to You

We believe that the same nurturing, holistic environment is optimal for learning how to be a midwife, so we extend this practice to our students. We ensure individualized education through small class sizes, focus on hands-on learning, and offer referrals to counseling and tutoring services. Just as a midwife is with her client every step of the journey from prenatal to postpartum, HSM vows to be there to help our students, from the day they submit their application to when they start their careers as midwives and maternal healthcare professionals.

Vision

Drawing from the wisdom of those who have gone before us and utilizing the vast body of current knowledge and skill, HSM provides the highest quality of midwifery education. We are deeply committed to evidence-based practice, teaching our students to integrate the best available research with clinical expertise and client values in every aspect of care. We thoroughly equip aspiring midwives to serve their communities with excellence, combining time-honored traditions with contemporary scientific understanding.

We are creating a legacy and rich heritage, ensuring continued access to maternity care providers who follow the Midwives Model of Care™ while maintaining the highest standards of evidence-based, safe, and effective care.

Mission

HSM will preserve the art and science of quality midwifery care and secure ongoing access to excellent maternity care by educating future midwives through evidence-based practice and clinical excellence. We are committed to teaching students to integrate the best available research, clinical expertise, and client-centered values in all aspects of maternal healthcare. We cast the vision for passing along this wealth of wisdom from generation to generation, ensuring that traditional midwifery knowledge is strengthened by contemporary scientific understanding.

Our success will be measured by seeing the number of midwives in Florida grow as our students reach their full potential, graduate, and become licensed practitioners who provide safe, effective, and compassionate care grounded in both evidence and experience.

Motto

“Educating Generations, Empowering Birth”

This motto encapsulates the heart of Heritage School of Midwifery and Natural Health Sciences. We are dedicated to educating successive generations of skilled, compassionate midwives and maternal healthcare professionals who carry forward the timeless art of midwifery while embracing evidence-based practice. Through comprehensive education and hands-on clinical training, we empower our students

to, in turn, empower birthing families—supporting their autonomy, honoring their choices, and providing excellent care that respects the natural process of birth. Our commitment extends beyond individual students to the broader community, as each graduate becomes part of a living legacy that ensures families have access to the Midwives Model of Care™ for generations to come. By educating today's students, we are empowering tomorrow's births and strengthening the foundation of maternal healthcare in Florida and beyond.

Programs

Certificate in Maternal Health Medical Assisting (CMHMA)

The Maternal Health Medical Assisting program prepares students to provide critical support in maternal and newborn healthcare settings. Graduates receive a Certificate in Maternal Health Medical Assisting and are prepared to work in physician's offices, birth centers, and maternal health clinics as skilled medical assistants with a specialized focus on women's and infant health.

The curriculum consists of 31 credits (780 clock hours), offered over two semesters (approximately 8 months). Courses are delivered in a hybrid format: online asynchronous coursework, in-person skills labs, and a supervised clinical externship. This program is designed for students who wish to enter the maternal healthcare field quickly with job-ready skills.

Program Goals

Graduates of HSM's Certificate in Maternal Health Medical Assisting program should:

- Earn a Certificate in Maternal Health Medical Assisting
- Demonstrate competence in essential clinical, laboratory, and administrative skills for maternal health care
- Be prepared to provide skilled support to midwives, physicians, and other healthcare providers in maternal and newborn care settings as a midwife assistant, medical assistant, and/or birth assistant
- Exhibit professional standards of conduct and communication in healthcare practice
- Contribute to improved maternal and infant health outcomes through compassionate, evidence-based care
- Provide clinical and administrative support in women's health and perinatal care settings
- Assist licensed midwives and other healthcare providers in diverse birth environments
- Apply foundational knowledge in anatomy, microbiology, pharmacology, and maternal health
- Demonstrate proficiency in essential technical skills, safety protocols, and patient communication
- Transition seamlessly into Heritage School of Midwifery and Natural Health Sciences (HSM) Direct Entry Midwifery program with advanced standing

Direct Entry Midwifery Program

Our Direct Entry¹ Midwifery program trains students in midwifery. Graduates receive a certificate of completion and will be eligible to take the NARM exam. Students who pass the NARM exam may apply to become a Certified Professional Midwife (CPM, recognized in [most states](#)) and/or a Licensed Midwife (LM, Florida-specific).

The curriculum consists of 93 credits, which equals 2505 clock hours. We have three semesters each year; Fall, Spring, and Summer.

This program is designed to take 3 years, depending on how quickly the student meets the clinical requirements. Please refer to the Clinical Lab Policies section for complete clinical requirements.

Program Goals

Graduates of HSM's direct-entry midwifery program should:

- Earn a Diploma in Midwifery
- Pass the comprehensive midwifery board exam administered by the North American Registry of Midwives in order to earn the credentials of Florida Licensed Midwife (LM) and/or Certified Professional Midwife (CPM)
- Start a midwifery practice or join an existing midwifery practice in their communities
- Practice the art and science of midwifery according to the laws and rules set forth by the state of Florida, the MANA Core Competencies, and the Midwives Model of Care (TM), upholding the professional standards of the CPM credential
- Promote the advancement of midwifery and work toward increased access to midwifery care for all through community, state, and/or global involvement

Bachelor of Science in Midwifery (BSM)

The Bachelor of Science in Midwifery (BSM) Degree Program is designed for licensed midwives (LMs) and/or Certified Professional Midwives (CPMs) who hold or have held a qualifying midwifery credential and seek to advance their academic standing to the bachelor's level. The program builds upon prior professional and academic experience with a focus on interdisciplinary learning, research literacy, and critical thinking rooted in maternal and reproductive health.

Graduates receive a Bachelor of Science in Midwifery (BSM). This degree prepares midwives for advanced professional roles in education, leadership, global maternal health initiatives, or expanded clinical practice pathways, depending on state and national regulations.

¹ "Direct Entry" Midwifery refers to specialized midwifery training with minimal college level prerequisites as opposed to a Certified Nurse Midwife (CNM) who must first have a degree in nursing before taking midwifery training.

The BSM requires 120 total credits, which includes 90 transfer credits from an accredited midwifery diploma or associate degree program plus 30 upper-division credits completed at HSM. The program is delivered fully online and asynchronous, providing flexibility while ensuring substantial faculty interaction and academic rigor.

Program Goals

Graduates of HSM's Bachelor of Science in Midwifery program should:

- Earn a Bachelor of Science in Midwifery
- Advance their critical thinking, communication, and research skills to strengthen professional midwifery practice
- Demonstrate leadership in maternal health, birth equity, and community advocacy
- Contribute to the profession of midwifery through scholarship, mentorship, or organizational involvement
- Promote the integration of midwifery into broader healthcare systems while maintaining the Midwives Model of Care™

Statement of Legal Control

Heritage School of Midwifery and Natural Health Sciences, Inc. is a privately held institution wholly owned by Trombley & Associates, LLC. Trombley & Associates, LLC holds full legal control over the operations and policies of the school.

The legal name of the institution is **Heritage School of Midwifery and Natural Health Sciences, Inc.**

History of Institution

Heritage School of Midwifery and Natural Health Sciences, Inc. was founded in 2016 by **Kristin and Todd Schuchmann** with the mission of providing high-quality midwifery education. The institution began with a single program: a **three-year, direct-entry Midwifery Program**, culminating in a diploma in midwifery.

Shortly after its founding, the school received official recognition and approval from state authorities. On **August 11, 2016**, the program was approved by the **Florida Department of Health, Licensed Council of Midwifery**, establishing Heritage as an approved midwifery training program provider in the state. The following day, on **August 12, 2016**, Heritage School of Midwifery received a **provisional license** from the **Florida Department of Education, Commission for Independent Education (CIE)**, allowing the institution to operate and enroll students in accordance with state regulations.

In **August 2018**, Heritage received its **annual license from the Florida Department of Education, Commission for Independent Education**, solidifying its continued compliance and operational status as a licensed postsecondary institution.

As of **August 1, 2025**, **Trombley & Associates, LLC** assumed ownership of Heritage School of Midwifery, taking full legal control over the institution's operations, governance, and policies. Under this new ownership, the school continues its commitment to student-centered education, combining both theoretical knowledge and clinical experience to prepare graduates for competent, professional midwifery practice.

Student Catalog and Handbook

All students will receive both the Student Handbook and the Student Catalog at the mandatory orientation before courses begin. The most current version of both publications will be posted to [HSM website](#) when they are revised. It is the student's responsibility to read, understand, and abide by the policies found in the current versions of these publications.

Leadership & Administration

Board of Trustees

Chairman

Conner J. Trombley, MBA, MAcc,
(also serves ex officio as Executive Director)

Vice Chairman

Rose Trombley LM, CPM
(also serves ex officio as Academic/Clinical Coordinator – West Coast)

Trustee- Business Development and Economic Growth Expert (External)
Dean Dietrich

Trustee – Midwifery & Maternal Health Expert (External)
Laurie Silberstein CM, MS

Trustee – Distance Education & Learning Technology Expert (External)
VACANT

Trustee – Accreditation & Regulatory Affairs Advisor (External)
VACANT

Trustee – Academic Affairs & Curriculum Oversight
John Edwards DC, DACCP

Trustee – Faculty Representative
Connie Mullen LM, CPM
(also serves ex officio as Academic Faculty)

Trustee – Alumni Representative
Karina Aguirre LM
(also serves ex officio as Academic Faculty)

Trustee – Employer Representative (External)
Vincent James Cavanaugh “Jimbo”

Trustee -Clinical Preceptor Representative (External)
VACANT

Trustee – Student Representative
Brienne Aries

Administration

Executive Director & Owner, Core Faculty-LAW101, STR101, ETH101, COM101, RES102



Conner J. Trombley, MBA, MAcc, JD Candidate is a multifaceted professional with expertise in law, accounting, business administration, and higher education consulting. He is currently pursuing a Juris Doctor (JD) at FAMU Law and holds a Master of Accountancy (MAcc) from the University of West Florida, an MBA from Louisiana State University Shreveport, and multiple degrees in accounting and management from State College of Florida. Conner has worked extensively with colleges and universities across multiple states, specializing in regulatory compliance, accreditation, and distance education approval. His work includes guiding institutions

through regional and national accreditation processes, ensuring compliance with federal and state higher education regulations, and assisting in securing state authorization for online programs. He has also advised on Title IV financial aid compliance, institutional governance, curriculum development, strategic planning, and operational efficiency. Beyond regulatory matters, Conner provides consulting on financial management and grant acquisition for higher education institutions, helping colleges develop sustainable funding models and improve financial oversight. His expertise extends to student affairs, academic program evaluation, faculty credentialing, and enrollment management, supporting institutions in optimizing student success and institutional growth. Conner's diverse background positions him as a strategic advisor in the evolving landscape of higher education, committed to ensuring institutional compliance, financial sustainability, and student success.

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Administrative Coordinator

Amanda Alter

AAlter@HeritageSchoolofMidwifery.com

Academic/ Clinical Coordinator- West Coast & Co-Owner



Rose Trombley LM, CPM is a third-generation midwife and proud graduate of the Heritage School of Midwifery. Having grown up immersed in birth work, she has been attending births her entire life, officially beginning her service to expectant families as a birth assistant in 2012. Since then, she has supported hundreds of families with compassion, skill, and dedication as they welcomed their babies into the world. Rose's love for learning drives her to continually

expand her knowledge and training. She is actively pursuing her master's degree in midwifery while remaining fully engaged in clinical practice and education. In addition to her role as Academic/ Clinical Coordinator – West Coast and Co-Owner at Heritage School of Midwifery, she serves families as a Licensed Midwife with the same passion that has defined her lifelong journey in maternal care. Alongside her professional commitments, Rose treasures her vocation as a full-time mother. She and her husband are raising and homeschooling their children—all of whom were born at

home. When she is not working with students or supporting birthing families, Rose can be found enjoying nature, climbing trees, singing, playing guitar, reading, studying, and adventuring with her family.

ClinicCoordWC@HeritageSchoolofMidwifery.com

Clinic Director- West Coast



Charlie Rae Young, LM, CPM, CLC is a graduate of the Florida School of Traditional Midwifery and Florida Licensed Midwife (MW276). A Florida native, Charlie was called to Midwifery after her own experience with the over-medicalized model of childbirth. She began her service as a doula by founding Barefoot Birth in 2008, and has worked as a strong advocate for better care for families alongside the Coalition for Improving Maternity Services, The Birth Survey, The Florida Council of Licensed Midwifery, and others. She has attended

hundreds of births over the last 17 years, filling a niche with naturally-minded families as well as those who are often marginalized from conventional medical care due to social stigma. She has written for and been featured in SQUAT Birth Journal, Tampa Bay Times, Tampa Tribune, FOCUS Magazine, Radical Doula Blog, and been interviewed for the Tampa NBC Affiliate for her community projects The Barefoot Bus--a fully mobile prenatal care unit operating under the easy access model of care as well as her 501c3 The Community Roots Collective. Charlie's belief is that every family deserves safe and quality care, and hopes to continue to build stronger communities through beautiful births. When she's not midwifing you can find Charlie wrangling her two gals Elliot and Rainy, in a hot yoga class, hollerin on a bicycle, or probably floating in or on some body of water deep in the Florida wilderness. "

ClinicDirectorWC@HeritageSchoolofMidwifery.com

Clinical Director- East Coast



Tammy Verdegem LM, CPM is a Licensed Midwife and the owner of Abundant Life Birth Center on Florida's Treasure Coast. Her journey into midwifery began over 20 years ago, and since then she has devoted her career to serving families with safe, compassionate, and individualized maternity care. For more than 16 years, she has attended births full time, and for over 15 years she has owned and operated one of Florida's busiest home birth practices. Guided by the simple yet powerful vision of making safe, out-of-hospital birth options accessible, Tammy built her practice on the belief that every family deserves the opportunity to give birth in a loving and supportive environment. She is deeply committed to educating families on preventative health, and her care is rooted in evidence-based practices that prioritize both safety and empowerment. Her extensive experience and trusted track record speak to her unwavering dedication to the families and communities she serves.

In addition to her role as Clinical Director – East Coast at the Heritage School of Midwifery, Tammy continues to serve as Administrator and midwife at Abundant Life Birth Center. Beyond her professional work, she finds joy in family life with her husband, Mark, with whom she shares the blessing of raising eight amazing children.

ClinicDirectorEC@Heritateschoolofmidwifery.com

Academic Dean & Founder, Core Faculty- NUT102



Kristin Schuchmann, LM, CPM a second-generation midwife, graduate of Commonsense Childbirth School of Midwifery, and a practicing home birth midwife in southwest Florida, is the founder of Heritage School of Midwifery and Natural Health Sciences. Kristin is also fulfilling a dream to see maternity care and birth outcomes improve globally as the founder and executive director of Charis Childbirth, Inc., an international school that trains childbirth professionals. Having benefitted from close relationships with respected, skilled midwives, including her own mother, Kristin finds great satisfaction in mentoring and passing along the knowledge, skill, and wisdom she has attained over the years. When she is not working, Kristin enjoys sitting on the beach, hiking in the mountains, singing, gardening, and preparing gourmet healthy meals. Kristin's greatest passion and love are for her family and she is thoroughly enjoying grandmother-hood.

Kristin@HeritageSchoolofMidwifery.com

Clinical Dean



Susan Oshel, LM, CPM is a Virginia licensed CPM who began attending births as a doula and midwife's assistant in 1977, and in 1981 attended her first birth as a primary midwife. She grew up in Virginia Beach, VA and spent most of her adult life in Floyd County, VA, where she served the beautiful, rural, diverse mountain community as a traditional midwife. Along with a committed group of sister midwives, professionals and consumers, Susan successfully worked toward legalization of Certified Professional Midwives in Virginia. In 1999, Susan developed and launched her first midwifery academics course with great results. In addition to her expertise in women's health, reproduction, birth, lactation, infants and children, she has extensive education in herbs and nutrition. Susan has assisted over 1,000 births and continues serving families in SW Virginia. As the Director of Midwifery Studies for Charis Childbirth, an international school for midwives, Susan has provided education and consultation for midwives all over the world since 2006. Susan was also involved in analyzing midwifery statistics as a Midwives Alliance of North America (MANA) data reviewer and has reviewed over 25,000 birth forms to-date. Susan and David, her husband and high school sweetheart, currently live in Roanoke, VA. They have 4 grown children, seven grandchildren, and eleven great grandbabies. In her free time, she enjoys gardening, sewing, and graphic art.

Susan@HeritageSchoolofMidwifery.com

Institutional Risk, Audit, & Compliance Officer

Jordan Walker BA, JD Candidate serves as the Institutional Risk, Audit, & Compliance Officer for Heritage School of Midwifery. He earned his bachelor's degree in Philosophy from Florida Gulf Coast University and is currently in his second year of law school at Florida A&M University College of Law in Orlando, where he is pursuing his Juris Doctor. Before joining Heritage, Jordan worked with The Princeton Review, where he taught and prepared students for high-stakes exams such as the MCAT,

LSAT, and GRE. His background in philosophy, education, and law has equipped him with exceptional analytical skills, meticulous attention to detail, and a comprehensive understanding of regulatory frameworks—qualities that are essential in overseeing institutional compliance, risk management, and audit processes. In his role, Jordan ensures that HSM maintains the highest standards of regulatory compliance, institutional integrity, and operational accountability. He monitors adherence to state and federal regulations, conducts internal audits, identifies and mitigates institutional risks, and develops policies that protect both students and the institution. His legal training and philosophical approach to problem-solving enable him to navigate complex regulatory landscapes while maintaining HSM's commitment to educational excellence and ethical practice. Outside of his compliance and legal work, Jordan is known for his wit, curiosity, and love of learning. He brings a blend of professionalism, strategic thinking, and good humor to the Heritage community, making him not only a vigilant compliance officer but also a genuinely valued member of the team.

InstitutionalRAC@HeritageSchoolofMidwifery.com

Registrar

Samia Saddiqui, JD Candidate

OfficeofRegistrar@HeritageSchoolofMidwifery.com

Student Services Officer

Barbara D'Ambrosio, JD Candidate

StudentServices@HeritageSchoolofMidwifery.com

Marketing Officer



Ashria Daskundu BS, JD Candidate serves as the Marketing Officer for Heritage School of Midwifery. She earned her Bachelor of Science in Health Sciences with concentrations in Health Management and Biological Sciences from the University of South Florida in 2023, where she also minored in Criminology. She is currently a second-year law student at Florida A&M University College of Law in Orlando, where she is pursuing her Juris Doctor. Ashria brings a unique combination of healthcare knowledge, legal acumen, and extensive leadership experience to her role at HSM. As Senate President for USF Student Government, she led 47 Senators, managed a \$300,000+ budget, and represented over 50,000 students across three campuses. Her experience includes legal internships with the State Attorney's Office for the 10th Judicial Circuit Court and a congressional internship with Congresswoman Kathy Castor's office, where she developed expertise in constituent relations, public representation, and strategic communication. In her role as Marketing Officer, Ashria develops and executes marketing strategies that effectively communicate HSM's mission and programs to prospective students, community partners, and stakeholders. Her experience in organizing large-scale events, managing public messaging, and building relationships with diverse audiences enables her to expand HSM's reach and visibility within the maternal healthcare community. With her dynamic blend of healthcare expertise, legal

training, and proven leadership abilities, Ashria brings energy, professionalism, and strategic thinking to HSM's marketing efforts.

Marketing@HeritageSchoolofMidwifery.com

Academic/ Clinical Coordinator- East Coast



Amanda Piasecki RN, LM is a licensed midwife and registered nurse with a diverse background in both academic and clinical settings. A proud graduate of Heritage School of Midwifery's Class of 2023, Amanda currently practices midwifery at Abundant Life Birth Center in Stuart, Florida, where she serves women and families with compassion and skill. Before becoming a midwife, Amanda built an extensive nursing career with the Visiting Nurse Association (VNA) of Stuart, gaining valuable experience in patient-centered care. She holds a strong educational foundation, having pursued studies at both the University of Central Florida and Keiser University. A devoted wife and proud mother of four, Amanda brings warmth, wisdom, and dedication to everything she does—both in her professional life and at home.

ClinicCoordEC@HeritageSchoolofMidwifery.com

Academic Faculty

Core Faculty- HIS101, BIO112



Connie Mullen, CPM, LM, has been childbirth professional for over 34 years, including having a very successful private midwifery practice since 1995. For many years she was the only practicing home birth midwife in Palm Beach County. After graduating the South Florida School of Midwifery in 1990, Connie became a Florida Licensed Midwife, Certified Professional Midwife, Certified Childbirth Educator and an American Heart Association Basic Life Support Instructor. In addition, she holds certificates as a childbirth assistant, bereavement doula, breastfeeding specialist, and fitness instructor. She is a Regional Coordinator and teacher trainer with the Florida Outreach Childbirth Education Program, serves as a midwife preceptor for the Traditional School of Midwifery and served as a midwife preceptor for the Miami-Dade Community College Midwifery program. Connie has also given many presentations, lectures and has written or appeared in several magazine and newspaper articles and on television.

Connie@HeritageSchoolofMidwifery.com

Core Faculty- BIO101, BIO101L



Dr. Danielle Dietrich DC, CACCP, is a Webster Certified Chiropractor with advanced training in maternal and reproductive health. Her clinical work focuses on supporting new and expectant mothers by addressing the unique effects of pregnancy-related hormonal changes, such as increased relaxin levels that can contribute to joint instability and discomfort. Through specialized chiropractic techniques, she helps realign the spine and pelvis to promote joint stability, improve sleep quality, enhance pelvic floor function, support digestion, and foster overall well-

being. In addition to her teaching role with the Heritage School of Midwifery, Dr. Dietrich maintains thriving practices in both Cape Coral and Fort Myers. Her team provides a full spectrum of care, including in-home visits, pediatric chiropractic services, and specialized support for couples navigating fertility challenges. With her integrative approach and dedication to maternal health, Dr. Dietrich brings invaluable expertise and perspective to her students, enriching their educational journey and preparing them to better serve families in their future practices.
ddietrich@HeritageSchoolOfMidwifery.com

Core Faculty- LAC103



Sandra Lobaina LM, CPM, IBCLC, is a Licensed Midwife, Certified Professional Midwife, and International Board Certified Lactation Consultant with over 17 years of experience supporting mothers and families. Since completing her training at the International School of Midwifery in 2010, she has attended more than 1,200 births in roles ranging from observer and coach to primary midwife. A passionate advocate for maternal and infant health, Sandra is dedicated to empowering families through compassionate, culturally competent care.

Sandra began her career serving with the Miami-Dade County WIC & Nutrition Program, where she provided individualized breastfeeding support for new mothers and gained insight into the cultural barriers that can impact breastfeeding success. As a Latina minority herself, she is deeply committed to addressing these challenges, educating her community, and creating safe, supportive spaces for families. Each year, she co-hosts The Big Latch On Miami alongside WIC and the Healthy Start Coalition of Miami-Dade County to promote World Breastfeeding Awareness. In addition to her educational role at Heritage, Sandra offers individualized services through her own practice, including childbirth education (in both English and Spanish), lactation consultations (in-office, at-home, and virtual), breastfeeding and pumping classes, and ongoing support groups. Previously, she co-founded and co-owned a birth center, but today her focus remains on providing personalized care that uplifts and supports families throughout their breastfeeding and parenting journeys. Above all, Sandra is a proud mother of two amazing boys who inspire her daily and fuel her mission to provide support, education, and encouragement to families in her community and beyond.

SandraL@HeritageSchoolOfMidwifery.com

Core Faculty- MID102, BIO101L



Karina Aguirre, LM, CPM is a Florida native from Jupiter with an amazing and supportive family. At a young age Karina knew she wanted to deliver babies. After doing tons of research, she found midwifery and fell in love with home birth. Jumping straight into the birth world, she started midwifery school at Heritage School of Midwifery and started an apprenticeship with the incredible midwives at Abundant Life Birth Center. Karina stayed in the treasure coast area serving as a compassionate and dedicated midwife committed to providing personalized and holistic care to expectant mothers and their families. Karina has

supported countless women through the journey of pregnancy, childbirth, and beyond. Known for her gentle demeanor and unwavering support, Karina creates a safe and nurturing environment where mothers feel empowered to make informed decisions about their care. Karina is not only a midwife but also a home visitor for Martin County Healthy Start serving the community in a different way with a deep understanding of the physiological and emotional aspects of childbirth, offering personalized guidance and support tailored to each woman's unique needs. She is committed to providing compassionate care that honors the sacred journey of bringing new life into the world.

kaguirre@HeritageSchoolofMidwifery.com

Core Faculty- DOU101

Sonia Bond, FOCEP, DONA, LPC

sbond@HeritageSchoolofMidwifery.com



Metta Weaver, DNP, CNM, has been a home birth and birth center nurse midwife and has provided full-scope reproductive healthcare since 2016. Metta is a graduate of Frontier Nursing University, graduating with a Master of Science in Nursing in 2016, completing a Post-Graduate Women's Health Care Nurse Practitioner Certification in 2021, and a Doctorate of Nursing Practice in 2022. Metta is the medical director of Hillside Midwifery, a home birth practice in Boise, Idaho.

She spends time working with a group of midwives in Oaxaca, Mexico, to provide humanitarian aid and prenatal care to migrant families. Metta enjoys mentoring, training, and being a supporting ally to midwifery students. In her spare time, she enjoys spending time with family, visiting hot springs, learning how to speak Spanish, and traveling. MettaW@HeritageSchoolofMidwifery.com

Credentials

Heritage School of Midwifery is licensed by the Florida Commission for Independent Education, License No. 5610. Additional information regarding this institution may be obtained by contacting the commission at:

325 West Gaines St., Suite 1414

Tallahassee, FL 32399-0400

Toll free: (888) 224 - 6684

<http://www.fldoe.org/cie/>



Midwives are regulated by the Florida Department of Health, Council of Licensed Midwifery.

Licensed Midwives (LM) are licensed by the Florida Council of Licensed Midwifery. LMs provide maternity care within Florida. The Department of Health can be contacted at:

4052 Bald Cypress Way, Bin #C06
Tallahassee, FL 32399-3256
www.floridahealth.gov/



Certified Professional Midwives (CPM) are certified by the North American Registry of Midwives. CPMs can practice midwifery in other states that recognize CPM certification. State regulations vary, and it is up to the midwife to determine the state's requirements and regulations before practicing. NARM can be contacted at:

5257 Rosestone Dr.
Lilburn, GA 30047
www.NARM.org



Location and Facilities

2575 N. Toledo Blade Blvd. #3
Phone#: 941-423-4376
North Port, FL 34289
Office hours: Fridays & Saturdays 9:00 AM to 4:00 PM

HSM is in North Port on Toledo Blade, just a couple minutes away from the interstate. The facilities at HSM are uniquely designed to provide an optimized educational environment. We have two classrooms that are structured for active learning. Students will receive hands-on instruction with anatomical models and up-to-date medical equipment. There is a cozy library for studying, and a small kitchen for students who wish to bring their lunch. The 2000 sq. ft. building is shared with LifeSong Midwifery, where students may practice in either of the two exam rooms. The facility meets all local health and safety standards. Proof of compliance can be viewed upon request at the administrative office.

Some classes will be taught via classroom teleconference. Students will attend together in the classroom, and the teacher or guest speaker will be teleconferenced in through a projector. This allows us to work with wonderful teachers from all over the US.

Student Services

HSM provides ongoing support to ensure our students' success. Please contact the appropriate staff member for assistance with the following:

Student Services Officer

The Student Services Officer provides general support and helps students connect with available academic and institutional resources.

Services include:

- **Registration Support:** Help with application, enrollment, and class registration.

- **Financial Counseling:** Assistance with budgeting and identifying financial support options.
 - **General Information:** Help with understanding school policies, class requirements, and institutional procedures.
 - **Tutoring Coordination:** Help locating academic support when needed.
 - **Student Counseling Referrals:** If a student needs counseling we will provide a list of available counseling options.
-

Academic Dean

The Academic Dean provides leadership and oversight for academic programs, ensuring quality, integrity, and compliance with accreditation standards.

Services include:

- **Academic Advising:** Assistance with course selection, understanding grade requirements, and transferring credits.
 - **Academic Dispute Resolution:** Support with grade appeals and academic concerns.
 - **Curriculum Guidance:** Information on academic progress, policies, and graduation requirements.
-

Clinical Dean

The Clinical Dean oversees all clinical training programs and maintains high standards for student learning and performance in the clinical setting.

Services include:

- **Oversight of Clinical Placement:** Ensures students are matched with qualified preceptors and clinical sites.
 - **Clinical Performance Review:** Monitors student progress and supports readiness for graduation.
 - **Dispute Resolution:** Provides support in resolving clinical performance concerns or conflicts.
 - **Remediation Planning:** Assists students in identifying and addressing clinical skill gaps.
-

Clinical Director – East Coast

The Clinical Director – East Coast supports students assigned to clinical sites on the East Coast.

Services include:

- **Clinical Competency Evaluation:** Tracks and reviews students' development of clinical skills.
 - **Student Coaching:** Offers guidance in hands-on clinical techniques and patient care.
 - **Preceptor Interaction Support:** Helps students build productive working relationships with their preceptors.
 - **Graduation Preparation:** Assists with final clinical evaluations and progress toward clinical requirements.
-

Clinical Director – West Coast

The Clinical Director – West Coast supports students assigned to clinical sites on the West Coast.

Services include:

- **Clinical Competency Evaluation:** Tracks and reviews students' development of clinical skills.
 - **Student Coaching:** Offers guidance in hands-on clinical techniques and patient care.
 - **Preceptor Interaction Support:** Helps students build productive working relationships with their preceptors.
 - **Graduation Preparation:** Assists with final clinical evaluations and progress toward clinical requirements.
-

Academic/Clinical Coordinator – East Coast

The Academic/Clinical Coordinator – East Coast provides additional support to students located at East Coast clinical sites.

Services include:

- **Academic Coaching:** Helps students understand academic requirements and stay on track.
 - **Clinical Skill Support:** Offers guidance for skill development during clinical training.
 - **Progress Monitoring:** Supports students in meeting clinical and academic benchmarks.
 - **Student Advising:** Assists students with questions and concerns related to coursework or clinical assignments.
 - **Preparation for NARM Exam/Application:** includes advice on the process and timing of submitting NARM requirements, the costs involved, and studying for the exam.
 - **Job Placement Assistance²:** Once a student has graduated, HSM will help the student find local birth centers, or give advice on starting their own practice.
 - **Personal Counseling:** If a student needs help coping with personal or clinical experiences related to midwifery/childbirth.
-

Academic/Clinical Coordinator – West Coast

The Academic/Clinical Coordinator – West Coast provides additional support to students located at West Coast clinical sites.

Services include:

- **Academic Coaching:** Helps students understand academic requirements and stay on track.
- **Clinical Skill Support:** Offers guidance for skill development during clinical training.
- **Progress Monitoring:** Supports students in meeting clinical and academic benchmarks.
- **Student Advising:** Assists students with questions and concerns related to coursework or clinical assignments.

² HSM cannot guarantee employment.

- **Preparation for NARM Exam/Application:** includes advice on the process and timing of submitting NARM requirements, the costs involved, and studying for the exam.
- **Job Placement Assistance³:** Once a student has graduated, HSM will help the student find local birth centers, or give advice on starting their own practice.
- **Personal Counseling:** If a student needs help coping with personal or clinical experiences related to midwifery/childbirth.

Registrar

The Registrar is responsible for managing student academic records and ensuring proper enrollment processes.

Services include:

- **Academic Records Management:** Maintenance of transcripts and course completion records.
- **Enrollment and Registration Support:** Assistance with class schedules and registration procedures.
- **Compliance Support:** Ensures student data aligns with FERPA and accreditation requirements.
- **Record Requests:** Processes transcript requests and provides verification of enrollment or graduation.

Academics

Certificate in Maternal Health Medical Assisting (CMHMA)

Prerequisites for Admission

Prior to enrollment, students must:

- Be 18 years of age or older on February 1 of the school year
- Hold a high school diploma or GED
- Have taken and received a passing grade in a 3-credit college-level Math course AND a 3-credit college-level English course, OR demonstrate competency by passing the CLEP with a minimum score of 50 in Math and English
- Obtain CPR for healthcare professionals certification (hands-on; American Heart Association or Red Cross only)
- Obtain NRP (Neonatal Resuscitation Program) certification (hands-on; American Academy of Pediatrics only)

Application and Enrollment

Prospective students must:

- Submit a completed application including:
 - Birth Certificate or Driver's License
 - High School Diploma or transcripts
 - Current (as of first day of school) NRP and CPR certifications
 - Immunization records or signed immunization waiver

³ HSM cannot guarantee employment.

- Current physical health form (including request for any disability accommodations)
- Typed 500-word essay titled "Why I Want to be in Maternal Healthcare Field"
- Submit 1 professional and 2 personal references
- Submit \$150 application fee (non-refundable)
- Complete an interview with our admissions committee

Upon acceptance, students must sign an Enrollment Agreement and submit an enrollment fee of \$100, then attend mandatory orientation.

Application Review

Applicants are evaluated on:

- Strong verbal/written communication skills
- Ability to perform physical requirements of assisting in maternal health care
- Reliable transportation and flexibility for externship placements
- Professional demeanor and stress management skills
- Demonstrated interest or experience in healthcare

Direct Entry Midwifery Program

Prerequisites for Admission

In accordance with Florida Statute 467 (F.S.467) & HSM Policies, prior to enrollment, matriculating students⁴ need to:

- Be 18 years of age or older on February 1 of the school year
- Hold a high school diploma or GED
- Have taken and received a passing grade in a college-level Math class worth 3 credits AND a college-level English class worth 3 credits OR Demonstrate competency by passing the College Level Equivalent Proficiency (CLEP) (A minimum score of 50 is required for both the Math and English sections) OR Demonstrate competency by successfully passing the **HSM College-Level English Competency Oral Exam** (meets the requirement for **College-Level English – 3 credit prerequisite**).
- Have taken and received a passing grade in college-level Anatomy and Physiology I with lab worth 4 credits and Anatomy and Physiology II with Lab worth 4 credits
- Obtain CPR for healthcare professionals' certification. This must be a hands-on course. Online-only courses will not count. Must be through either the American Heart Association or the Red Cross.
- Obtain NRP (Neonatal Resuscitation) certification. This must be a hands-on course. Online-only courses will not count. Must be through the American Academy of Pediatrics.

Application and Enrollment

Prospective students must:

- Submit a completed application including the following:
 - Birth Certificate or Driver's License
 - High School Diploma or transcripts

⁴ Some of the pre-requisites and/or essay may be waived for audit or non-matriculating students on a case-by-case basis. Not all classes are available to audit and non-matriculating students.

- *High school transcripts are **not required** if the applicant holds an earned AA, AS, Bachelor's, or higher degree from a U.S.-accredited institution.*
 - College transcripts
 - Current (as of first day of school) NRP and CPR certifications.
 - Immunization records and/or signed immunization waiver
 - Current physical health form (including request for any disability accommodations)
 - Typed 600-700-word essay titled “Why I Want to be a Midwife”
 - Submit 1 professional and 2 personal references
- Submit a \$150 application fee (non-refundable)
- Complete an interview with our admissions committee

Application Review

The practice of midwifery is very rewarding, but also rigorous and time intensive. The application process is designed to help prospective students evaluate their own ability and dedication to becoming a midwife. HSM treats all applicants and students fairly. During the application and interview process applicants are evaluated on the following and are met with reasonable accommodations:

- Strong verbal and written communication skills
- Capability of performing the physical requirements necessary to practice midwifery which include adequate sensory and motor systems
- Reliable transportation and willingness to travel to clinical sites
- Prepared to devote the time and energy required on a clinical site, including the willingness to be on call to attend births
- Fluency in English, currently classes are only offered in the English language
- Has knowledge of or experience in birth or health care setting
- The ability to handle stressful situations, make quick informed decisions, and remain professional
- Solid plan to cover the cost of midwifery school

Space is limited and priority will be given to full-time matriculating students.

Upon acceptance, students must submit a \$100 enrollment fee. New students will meet with the Clinical Coordinator to start the clinical placement process. Before classes begin, there will be a mandatory orientation.

Bachelor of Science in Midwifery (BSM)

Prerequisites for Admission

Applicants must:

- Be 18 years of age or older on February 1 of the school year
- Hold a qualifying diploma/associate degree in Midwifery (Diploma, AS, AAS, or OAS) or equivalent
- Hold current or have held LM and/or CPM credential
- Provide official or attested high school diploma or GED

Application and Enrollment

Prospective BSM students must:

- Submit a completed application with:
 - Proof of identity (birth certificate or driver's license)
 - Official college transcripts and high school diploma
 - Proof of midwifery credential (LM or CPM)
 - Official transcripts verifying diploma/associate midwifery program completion or equivalent
 - Typed essay (800–1000 words) titled "Bridging Practice and Purpose: My Journey in Midwifery and Aspirations for the Future"
 - One (1) professional and two (2) personal references
- Submit \$150 application fee (non-refundable)
- Complete admissions interview with faculty

Upon acceptance, students must submit a \$100 enrollment fee and complete orientation.

Application Review

Applicants are evaluated on:

- Academic preparedness for upper-division work
- Written and verbal communication skills
- Prior professional practice experience
- Leadership potential in maternal health and midwifery care

Hybrid/Virtual Classes

Heritage School of Midwifery (HSM) offers a hybrid distance learning option for theory courses. Students may attend these specific courses virtually via **Microsoft Teams** for synchronous learning or access course materials asynchronously through **Moodle LMS**, our learning management system.

Virtual Learning Options:

- **Synchronous Learning:** Live instruction with the teacher and students present in a virtual classroom via Microsoft Teams.
- **Asynchronous Learning:** Course materials, assignments, and resources will be available through Moodle LMS, allowing students to engage in coursework on their own schedule while meeting assignment deadlines.

Remote Attendance Requirements:

To qualify for remote attendance, students must meet the following criteria:

- **Technology Requirements:**
 - Access to a computer (laptop preferred) with audio and a webcam.
 - Reliable internet connection (minimum **3 Mbps DSL**, preferably **50 Mbps high-speed internet**).
- **Technical Skills:**
 - Ability to navigate Microsoft 365, email, and a word processing program.

- Willingness to learn and use Moodle LMS and other school-required programs.
- **Virtual Classroom Conduct:**
 - Students must be **on time** and **fully present** in the Teams meeting.
 - Participation must take place in a **quiet, distraction-free environment**.
 - Students **cannot** attend class while driving or in an unsuitable learning environment; if this occurs, they may be asked to leave the virtual classroom.

HSM Discrimination Policy

HSM does not discriminate based on age, color, disability, gender, marital status, national and ethnic origin, race, religion, or sexual orientation; HSM grants to all the activities, privileges, programs, and rights generally accorded or made available to any members of the organization.

Transferability of Credits

Students who have earned credits at another institution may request a **Credit Transfer Review** at least **four weeks prior to course registration**. To initiate this process, students must submit the following to the **Academic Director**:

- **Credit Transfer Review Form**
- **Official transcripts** showing the credits earned
- **Course syllabi and descriptions** for evaluation

Credits will be reviewed to determine whether they align closely enough with HSM's curriculum for transfer. In some cases, courses must have been completed within the **last 3–5 years** to qualify. A minimum grade of **C or higher** is required for transferred credits. Students will be notified of credit transferability **at least one week before the start of classes**.

HSM accepts credit from the following sources:

- **Accredited college or university courses**
- **ACE (American Council on Education) credits**
- **CLEP (College-Level Examination Program)**
- **Sophia Learning courses**
- **Advanced Placement (AP) exams**
- **StraighterLine courses**
- **AICE (Advanced International Certificate of Education) credits**
- **IB (International Baccalaureate) credits**

Certificate in Maternal Health Medical Assisting (CMHMA) Transfer Credit Policy

As per **Florida law**, Students must complete at least **25%** of the CMHMA program at the Heritage School of Midwifery.

Direct Entry Midwifery Program Transfer Credit Policy

As per **Florida law**, transferred credits cannot reduce a student's time at HSM to **less than two years**. The maximum number of transferable credits is **45**.

Bachelor of Science in Midwifery (BSM) Transfer Credit Policy

As per **Florida law**, Students must complete at least **25%** of the BSM program at the Heritage School of Midwifery.

Students transferring from HSM to another institution must verify credit transferability with that institution, as acceptance policies may vary.

Experiential Transfer Credit Policy

Overview

The Heritage School of Midwifery (HSM) recognizes that students may have gained valuable knowledge and skills through prior learning experiences outside of traditional academic settings. HSM offers qualified students the opportunity to earn credit for demonstrated competencies acquired through work experience, military service-related training, professional training, volunteer work, independent study, or other non-academic learning experiences.

Eligibility Requirements

- Students must be officially enrolled in the Certificate in Maternal Health Medical Assisting (CMHMA) or Direct Entry Midwifery Program
- Students must have completed at least one semester at HSM before applying for experiential credit
- Students must be in good academic standing (minimum 2.0 GPA)
- Prior learning experiences must be relevant to the midwifery curriculum and program learning outcomes

Credit Limitations

A maximum of 25% of total program credits (7 credits out of 31 for CMHMA; 23 credits out of 93 for Direct Entry Midwifery Program) may be earned through experiential transfer credit

- Clinical Lab credits (CLI courses) cannot be awarded through experiential transfer credit; all clinical requirements must be completed as part of the HSM program
- Credits awarded through experiential learning do not carry a letter grade and are recorded as "CR" (Credit) on the transcript
- Experiential credits do not factor into GPA calculations

Application Process

1. **Initial Consultation:** Students interested in pursuing experiential credit must schedule a meeting with the Academic Coordinator and/or Academic Director to discuss eligibility and the application process
2. **Portfolio Development:** Students must compile a comprehensive portfolio that includes:
 - Detailed narrative describing the prior learning experience
 - Documentation of the experience (certificates, licenses, employment records, letters of verification, etc.)
 - Reflective essay connecting the experience to specific HSM course learning outcomes
 - Evidence of competency (work samples, projects, photographs, videos, etc.)
3. **Course Identification:** Students must clearly identify which HSM course(s) they are seeking credit for and demonstrate how their prior learning aligns with course objectives
4. **Portfolio Submission:** Completed portfolios must be submitted to the Academic Director and/or Academic Dean at least 60 days before the start of the semester in which credit is requested
5. **Portfolio Review:** A faculty committee consisting of Executive Director, Academic Dean, and Core Faculty Member will review the portfolio and may:
 - Request additional documentation or clarification
 - Conduct an interview with the student
 - Require demonstration of skills or knowledge through testing, practical examination, or project completion
6. **Credit Decision:** The faculty committee will determine whether to:
 - Award full credit for the identified course(s)
 - Award partial credit
 - Deny credit

Students will be notified in writing of the decision within 30 days of portfolio submission

Assessment Criteria

Experiential learning will be evaluated based on:

- **Relevance:** The learning must relate directly to HSM course content and learning outcomes
- **Quality:** The learning must be at a college level appropriate to the course for which credit is sought
- **Depth:** The learning must demonstrate comprehensive understanding, not superficial exposure

- **Currency:** The learning should generally have occurred within the past 5 years (exceptions may be made for ongoing professional practice)
- **Documentation:** Adequate evidence must be provided to verify the learning experience

Portfolio Fee

A non-refundable portfolio review fee of \$100 per course is required at the time of submission. If credit is awarded, students will pay the current per-credit tuition rate for the credits earned.

Appeal Process

Students who disagree with the credit decision may submit a written appeal to the Director of Education within 14 days of receiving the decision. The appeal must include specific reasons for disagreement and any additional supporting documentation. The Director's decision on the appeal is final.

Records

All experiential credit awards are recorded on the official HSM transcript with the notation "Experiential Credit" and do not include a letter grade.

Policy Updates

HSM reserves the right to modify these policies at any time. Students will be notified of changes, and the policies in effect at the time of application will apply.

Important Note

All clinical requirements mandated by as defined by the Chapter 467 Florida Statutes and the North American Registry of Midwives (NARM) must be completed as specified, regardless of prior experience. Experiential credit does not exempt students from clinical requirements.

Competency-Based Credit Policy

Overview

HSM's Certificate in Maternal Health Medical Assisting (CMHMA) & Direct Entry Midwifery Program recognizes that students learn at different paces and may have varying levels of prior knowledge and experience. The competency-based credit policy allows students to demonstrate mastery of course content and earn credit by successfully completing competency assessments, regardless of the time spent in formal instruction.

Eligible Courses

The following courses may be available for competency-based credit:

- BIO110 - Anatomy & Physiology I
- BIO110L - Anatomy & Physiology I Lab
- BIO110 - Anatomy & Physiology II
- BIO110L - Anatomy & Physiology II Lab
- MED102 - Medical Terms & Charting
- DIA 201 – Screening and Diagnostic Testing
- MID101 – Midwifery Skills I
- MID102 – Midwifery Skills II

Note: Any other Lab courses not listed above in list (BIO101L, BIO103L), skills courses not listed above in list (MID201, MID202), and clinical courses (CLI courses) are NOT eligible for competency-based credit and must be completed through traditional enrollment.

Credit Limitations

- A maximum of 12 credits may be earned through competency-based assessment
- Credits earned through competency assessment are recorded as "CR" (Credit) and do not carry a letter grade
- Competency credits do not factor into GPA calculations
- Students may attempt competency assessment for each eligible course only once

Eligibility Requirements

- Students must be officially enrolled in the Certificate in Maternal Health Medical Assisting or Direct Entry Midwifery Program
- Students must be in good academic standing (minimum 2.0 GPA)
- Students must complete the competency assessment request form and receive approval before beginning the assessment process

Assessment Process

1. Application

- Students must submit a Competency Assessment Request Form to the Academic Coordinator and/or Academic Director at least 30 days before the semester in which credit is requested
- The request must include:
 - Course(s) for which competency assessment is sought
 - Brief statement of prior knowledge or experience in the subject area

- Reason for requesting competency-based credit

2. Approval

- The Core Faculty designated course instructor and Academic Dean will review the request
- If approved, the student will receive detailed information about the assessment requirements and timeline
- If denied, the student will be provided with an explanation and must complete the course through traditional enrollment

3. Assessment Components

Competency assessments may include one or more of the following:

- **Comprehensive Written Examination:** Covers all course learning objectives and content
- **Practical Demonstration:** Hands-on skills assessment (where applicable)
- **Portfolio Submission:** Evidence of prior learning and mastery
- **Oral Examination:** Interview with course instructor to assess depth of understanding
- **Project or Paper:** Comprehensive assignment demonstrating mastery of course concepts

4. Scoring Standards

- Students must achieve a minimum score of 85% (B) on all assessment components to earn credit
- If a student scores below 85% on any component, credit is not awarded and the student must enroll in the course through traditional means
- Students may not retake competency assessments

5. Timeline

- Students must complete all assessment components within 30 days of approval
- Extensions may be granted in extenuating circumstances with approval from the Academic Dean

Fees

- **Assessment Fee:** \$150 per course (non-refundable, paid at time of application)

Preparation Resources

Students are responsible for their own preparation for competency assessments. HSM recommends:

- Reviewing the course syllabus and learning objectives
- Consulting the required textbooks and reading materials
- Utilizing online resources and study guides
- Meeting with the course instructor to clarify expectations (optional)

HSM does not provide formal instruction or tutoring for students preparing for competency assessments.

Academic Integrity

All competency assessments must be completed independently unless otherwise specified. Any evidence of academic dishonesty, including plagiarism, cheating, or unauthorized assistance, will result in:

- Immediate failure of the assessment
- Ineligibility for future competency-based credit
- Possible disciplinary action up to and including dismissal from the program

Appeal Process

Students who disagree with the assessment outcome may submit a written appeal to the Academic Dean within 14 days of receiving results. The appeal must include:

- Specific reasons for disagreement
- Supporting documentation or evidence
- Requested resolution

The Academic Dean will review the appeal and issue a final decision within 14 days. This decision is final.

Records

All competency-based credits are recorded on the official HSM transcript with the notation "Competency Credit" and do not include a letter grade.

Policy Updates

HSM reserves the right to modify these policies at any time. Students will be notified of changes, and the policies in effect at the time of application will apply.

Important Note

All clinical requirements mandated by as defined by the Chapter 467 Florida Statutes and the North American Registry of Midwives (NARM) must be completed as specified, regardless of prior experience. Competency-Based credit does not exempt students from clinical requirements.

Course Drop/Add Policy

A current schedule of classroom hours for each semester will be available on RosarioSIS⁵ prior to the beginning of classes. Students must pay their tuition in full by the start of their first class or pay a \$50 late payment fee per course. Students have until the end of the second week of the semester to drop classes without a financial penalty. Withdrawing from a class after the add/drop date, but before the last day to withdraw will receive a grade of “W”, but not a refund. Withdrawing after the last day to withdraw will result in a grade of “WF”, and no refund.

To add or drop a course after the first week has started; students must fill out the appropriate form, have it signed by the Executive Director, and submit it (plus applicable late fees) to the office. New students are strongly encouraged to apply early to allow time for clinical placement. Scheduling at clinical sites will be done in collaboration with our Clinical Coordinator, the student, and the preceptors.

Students may not attend classes at HSM unless they have registered and paid for those courses. Students who do not attend at least one of the first two meetings of a class or clinical experience may be dropped from the course with refund. Refer to the Fiscal Information section for more information on tuition and refunds.

Students must purchase their own supplies and textbooks. Before class starts, instructors will publish syllabi containing the textbooks and supplies required for each class. See the Tuition and Fees section for more information about books and supplies.

Non-Matriculating Students

If space permits, non-matriculating students can register for classes the week before class starts. They will be billed full tuition for all classes taken, plus equipment and technology fees. Not all courses are open to non-matriculating students. Contact the Executive Director before registering.

Class Breaks

Students will be given 10 minutes of break time for each 50 minutes of instruction. Instructors will choose when the students take their allotted breaks.

⁵Rosario SIS is our online student management system. Students will be taught the basics of using RosarioSIS during orientation.

Academic Calendar 2025-2026

Fall 2025 Semester: August-December

March 3 - July 26	Application Period
August 1 - August 9	Enrollment
August 22	Orientation
August 29	Classes Begin
September 6	Drop/Add Ends
October 18	Last Day to Withdraw and receive a "W"
November 23-29	Fall Break
December 13	Last Day of Fall Semester

Spring 2026 Semester: January-April

August 22 - December 14	Application Period
December 15 - December 18	Enrollment
December 19	Orientation
January 2	Classes Begin
January 10	Drop/Add Ends
February 21	Last Day to Withdraw and receive a "W"
April 18	Last Day of Spring Semester
March 29 - April 4	Spring Break

Summer 2026 Semester: May-August

December 29 - April 12	Application Period
April 13 - April 17	Enrollment
April 24	Orientation
May 1	Classes Begin
May 9	Drop/Add Ends
June 20	Last Day to Withdraw and receive a "W"
June 26 - July 5	Summer Break
August 15	Last Day of Summer Semester

There are 3 semesters every year, and each semester is 16 weeks long (15 weeks of class plus one week of break).

In the event of a hurricane, the week following the fall semester (December 14-20) will be designated for make-up classes to ensure that all missed sessions are rescheduled.

Skills Day

Skills Day is conducted each semester during the final in-person session of the Midwifery Skills course for that term. This structured assessment is designed to evaluate student progress from the beginning of the program to the present, ensuring the development of competencies required for safe and effective midwifery practice. Assessments are administered by Clinic Directors and/or Deans and are intended to provide a comprehensive evaluation of student readiness. Evaluations incorporate multiple modalities, including:

- **Oral examinations** to assess clinical reasoning, communication, and critical thinking.
- **Written examinations** to measure theoretical knowledge, comprehension, and application of evidence-based practice.
- **Practical examinations** to evaluate hands-on proficiency in essential midwifery skills within a supervised or simulated clinical setting.

Skills Day functions as a formative competency checkpoint, allowing faculty to verify student progress toward program learning outcomes and ensuring alignment with professional standards for Licensed Midwives. Results from Skills Day guide ongoing instruction, remediation where necessary, and support students in their trajectory toward independent practice.

Schedule

Hybrid model

- **Asynchronous online coursework** for all didactic classes, allowing students to study on a flexible schedule.
- **In-person skills intensives** held typically two days per month (Thursday, Friday and/or Saturday), based on cohort availability and faculty scheduling.
- **Clinicals:** Arranged directly between the student and their approved preceptor, offering maximum flexibility. Most students begin with 1–3 days per week during Year 1, increasing to 3–5 days per week by the final year.

Grading Policy

Academic performance will be graded on the following scale:

A	= 91-100%
B	= 81-90%
C	= 71-80%
D	= 61-70%
F	= 0-60%
I	= Incomplete
IP	= In progress (Clinical Labs)
W	= Withdrawn
WF	= Withdrew after withdrawal date or failed due to academic dishonesty
X	= Audited Class

GPA is calculated using a point per credit system.

A	= 4 points
B	= 3 points
C	= 2 points
D	= 1 point
F	= 0 points

The total number of points earned is divided by the number of credits attempted, and the result is the GPA.

Academic Standing

Honor Roll:	Student has earned all A's
In Good Standing:	Student has earned C's or better
Academic Warning	Student earned D's or F's the previous semester.
Academic Probation:	Student not making Satisfactory Academic Progress. Students must maintain a cumulative GPA of 2.5 or higher and successfully complete at least 67% of the attempted credits.

Failing and Repeating a Course

If a student feels that s/he is not doing well in a course, s/he should immediately make an appointment with the instructor or Academic Director, who will attempt to assist the student in finding a tutor. A grade of a "D" or an "F" is considered failing a course. If a student fails a course, s/he will have to repeat failed course. After the student successfully completes the course, his/her GPA will include both the failed grade and the passing grade. Failing a course will result in Academic Warning. If the course is a prerequisite for a subsequent course, the student may not register for the subsequent course until the prerequisite course has a passing grade. This may result in the student attending only part time, or more than full time. The extra time needed to make up failed and subsequent courses is counted towards the maximum time frame. Failing a class more than once or failing more than two classes may result in dismissal.

Incomplete Policy

If a student has completed at least 80% of a course and needs an extension at the end of a semester, s/he may request an “Incomplete” grade from the instructor. The instructor will decide if the student’s reasons are compelling enough to grant the request. If a request is approved, the student will receive an “I” grade and no credit until the work is completed. Student and Instructor will decide on a plan for completing the coursework, not to exceed one semester. If coursework is not completed by the end of the next semester, or within the agreed upon time frame, the student may receive an “F” for the course. If an incomplete course is a prerequisite for a subsequent course, the student may not register for the subsequent course until the prerequisite course has a passing grade.

Auditing Courses Policy

If space is available after matriculating students enroll, students may request to audit a course. Auditing a course allows a student to take a course for no credit, without affecting GPA (“X” grade). The student is still expected to participate in class, except for tests. Prerequisites must still be met, and approval is needed from both the Executive Director and instructor. Audited classes cost the same as a credit course, and if the course is repeated for credit, full price will still apply. However, if a student has taken and passed a course for credit, s/he may audit the course in the future for free. If a student wishes to change the audit/credit status of a course, s/he must do so before the add/drop date.

Academic Warning

Students who receive a “D” or “F” will be put on Academic Warning. These students will be required to meet with the Academic Director for counseling before the following semester and again halfway through the next semester. They will be encouraged to seek tutoring. Tutoring services may have an additional cost, to be determined by the tutor.

Academic Probation

Any student who has a GPA below 2.5 or does not complete 67% of the cumulative attempted credits will be placed on academic probation for failing to make satisfactory academic progress. Students on academic probation will be required to have a performance review with the Academic Director before the start of the next semester. Students remain on probation until their GPA has risen to at least 2.5 and they are completing more than 67% of attempted credits. Students who are on Academic Probation for more than two semesters may be considered for dismissal.

Maximum Timeframe for Program Completion

Students must complete their program within the maximum timeframe allowed. The maximum timeframe is defined as **150% of the published program length**, except where otherwise specified.

- The **Bachelor of Science in Midwifery (BSM)** must be completed within **150% of the program length**.
- The **Certificate in Maternal Health Medical Assisting** must be completed within **150% of the program length**.

- The **3-Year Direct Entry Midwifery Program** must be completed within a maximum of **6 years**.

If a student cannot meet graduation requirements within the applicable timeframe, the student will not be making Satisfactory Academic Progress and may be dismissed.

Absences

General Policy

Students are required to attend **at least 75% of the total clock hours** for each course. Students may be absent for **up to 25%** of the scheduled clock hours for that course. All absences within this limit must be **excused**, and students are responsible for arranging with their instructors to complete any missed assignments, assessments, or required activities.

Excused Absences

An absence will be excused for the following reasons:

- Illness of the student or the student's dependent
- Death in the student's immediate family
- Observance of religious holidays (with advance notice to HSM and the instructor)
- Birth-related absence (see policy below)

Documentation Requirements

HSM administration or faculty may require **written, verifiable documentation** to support the reason for an absence. If documentation is requested but not provided, the absence may be marked unexcused. In such cases, instructors may apply grade penalties or deny make-up opportunities for quizzes or tests at their discretion.

Some courses are less than a semester long. See the instructor's syllabus for details on their absence policy.

Birth-Related Absences

Birth-related absences occur when a student enrolled in Clinical Lab is on-call for an assigned client and must attend the client's labor and birth, resulting in the student being unable to attend scheduled class sessions. For example, if a student is on-call Thursday and is called to support a client at 4:00 pm but remains with the client through 6:00 pm the following day, the student's absence from Friday's classes qualifies as a birth-related absence. Students are required to be **off call for all scheduled classes**, except when attending an actively laboring client under this policy.

To qualify as a birth-related absence, the following conditions must be met:

- The student must be enrolled in **Clinical Lab**.
- The birthing individual must be a client of the student's assigned **Preceptor**.
- Students may use birth-related absences for **up to 25% of the total clock hours** for each course per semester. Any birth-related absences beyond this limit will be considered unexcused.
- The student must notify each instructor **before the start of class** when possible. If the instructor cannot be reached, the student must contact the Executive Director.
- All missed assignments must be made up promptly. Some assignments—such as quizzes—may not be eligible for make-up at the instructor's discretion. Students

should review the syllabus for each instructor's specific make-up policy.

- The student must submit a **Birth-Related Absence Form** to each instructor for every missed class. The form must include the Preceptor's signature, the date and time of the birth, and the dates and times the student attended the birth.

Unexcused Absences

An absence will be considered unexcused if:

- The student exceeds **25% of the total clock hours** allowed for absences in a course, even if the reason would otherwise be excused

- Required documentation is missing, incomplete, or not submitted as requested

Unexcused absences may result in grade penalties or inability to make up missed work, at the instructor's discretion. Excessive unexcused absences may result in failing the course).

Leave of Absence

A request must be submitted in writing to the Executive Director describing the reasons for the request and an estimated date of return. All tests, assignments and clinical work must be made up on a schedule approved by the faculty. A leave of absence may be requested for no more than one year. To be considered for an approved leave of absence a student must be in good academic standing with no "Incompletes" pending and be current in all financial obligations to the school. To ensure continuity and logical progression, it may be necessary for students returning from a leave of absence to wait a semester or two until the courses they need are available.

Military Service Members

HSM values our armed forces. We will grant an extended leave of absence to all military students who are leaving for active duty. Upon return, the students will be readmitted as soon as in-sequence courses are available to pick up where he or she left off. The student will be readmitted to the same program, at the same enrollment status, with the same number of completed credits, and the same academic standing. HSM will make every effort to help the student to prepare for returning to school. If more than 2 years have elapsed since the student left the program, the student will be tested to see if there is a need to repeat any core classes or other course material deemed necessary to successful continuation in the program. In this case, the student will be required to attend the class but will not be charged tuition or fees. Course material or clinical experience that needs to be reviewed or repeated will be assessed on a case-by-case basis.

Notice of intent to return must be submitted not later than 3 years after completion of service, and not later than 2 years after recovery from service-related illness or injury. If more than 5 years have elapsed since the student left the program, s/he may need to reapply.

Students with Disabilities

Academic accommodation will be made for students with physical, emotional, or learning disabilities. Students with disabilities must provide written documentation of their disability from a licensed health care provider and a written request for academic accommodation. Requests and documentation should be given to the

Executive Director before the first week of class. Academic accommodation will be established on an individual basis.

Graduation Requirements⁶

- Complete all classes listed in the program curriculum with a grade of “C” or better, and a cumulative GPA of 2.5 or higher.
- Finish and submit documentation for all clinical requirements, including hours, experiences, and skills.
- Meet all financial obligations.

Student Records

Student records are kept on file at HSM. Students may see their grades by accessing their RosarioSIS account. Official transcripts may be ordered by filling out a Transcript Release form and submitting it to the office. The student will be charged \$12 per copy. Students will receive 3 copies of their official transcripts upon graduation. Transcripts are kept on record for as long as the school exists. Clinical and other academic records will be kept for 5 years after graduation or withdrawal/dismissal before being purged.

Notification of Rights under FERPA for Postsecondary Institutions

The Family Educational Rights and Privacy Act (FERPA) affords eligible students certain rights with respect to their education records. (An “eligible student” under FERPA is a student who is 18 years of age or older or who attends a postsecondary institution.) These rights include:

1. The right to inspect and review the student's education records within 45 days after the day Heritage School of Midwifery and Natural Health Sciences (“HSM”) receives a request for access. A student should submit to the Executive Director a written request that identifies the record(s) the student wishes to inspect. The Executive Director will plan for access and notify the student of the time and place where the records may be inspected.
2. The right to request the amendment of the student’s education record that the student believes is inaccurate, misleading, or otherwise in violation of the student’s privacy rights under FERPA. A student who wishes to ask the school to amend a record should write the Executive Director, clearly identify the part of the record the student wants changed and specify why it should be changed.

If the school decides not to amend the record as requested, the school will notify the student in writing of the decision and the student’s right to a hearing regarding the request for amendment. Additional information regarding the hearing procedures will be provided to the student when notified of the right to a hearing.

3. The right to provide written consent before the university discloses personally identifiable information (PII) from the student’s education records, except to the extent that FERPA authorizes disclosure without consent.

⁶ See Clinical section for the requirements to get a CPM or LM after graduation.

The school discloses education records without a student's prior written consent under the FERPA exception for disclosure to school officials with legitimate educational interests. A school official is a person employed by HSM in an administrative, supervisory, academic, research, or support staff position (including law enforcement unit personnel and health staff); a person serving on the board of trustees; or a student serving on an official committee, such as a disciplinary or grievance committee. A school official also may include a volunteer or contractor outside of HSM who performs an institutional service or function for which the school would otherwise use its own employees and who is under the direct control of the school with respect to the use and maintenance of PII from education records, such as an attorney, auditor, or collection agent or a student volunteering to assist another school official in performing his or her tasks. A school official has a legitimate educational interest if the official needs to review an education record to fulfill his or her professional responsibilities for HSM.

4. The right to file a complaint with the U.S. Department of Education concerning alleged failures by the HSM to comply with the requirements of FERPA. The name and address of the Office that administers FERPA is:

Family Policy Compliance Office
U.S. Department of Education
400 Maryland Avenue, SW
Washington, DC 20202

FERPA permits the disclosure of PII from students' education records, without consent of the student, if the disclosure meets certain conditions found in §99.31 of the FERPA regulations. Except for disclosures to school officials, disclosures related to some judicial orders or lawfully issued subpoenas, disclosures of directory information, and disclosures to the student, §99.32 of FERPA regulations requires the institution to record the disclosure. Eligible students have a right to inspect and review the record of disclosures. A postsecondary institution may disclose PII from the education records without obtaining prior written consent of the student:

- To other school officials, including teachers, within HSM whom the school has determined to have legitimate educational interests. This includes contractors, consultants, volunteers, or other parties to whom the school has outsourced institutional services or functions, provided that the conditions listed in §99.31(a)(1)(i)(B)(1) -

(a)(1)(i)(B)(2) are met. (§99.31(a)(1))

- To officials of another school where the student seeks or intends to enroll, or where the student is already enrolled if the disclosure is for purposes related to the student's enrollment or transfer, subject to the requirements of §99.34. (§99.31(a)(2))

- To authorized representatives of the U. S. Comptroller General, the U. S. Attorney General, the U.S. Secretary of Education, or State and local educational authorities, such as a State postsecondary authority that is responsible for supervising the university's State-supported education programs. Disclosures under

this provision may be made, subject to the requirements of §99.35, in connection with an audit or evaluation of Federal- or State-supported education programs, or for the enforcement of or compliance with Federal legal requirements that relate to those programs. These entities may make further disclosures of PII to outside entities that are designated by them as their authorized representatives to conduct any audit, evaluation, or enforcement or compliance activity on their behalf. (§§99.31(a)(3) and 99.35)

- In connection with financial aid for which the student has applied or which the student has received, if the information is necessary to determine eligibility for the aid, determine the amount of the aid, determine the conditions of the aid, or enforce the terms and conditions of the aid. (§99.31(a)(4))
- To organizations conducting studies for, or on behalf of, the school, to: (a) develop, validate, or administer predictive tests; (b) administer student aid programs; or (c) improve instruction. (§99.31(a)(6))
- To accrediting organizations to carry out their accrediting functions. (§99.31(a)(7))
- To parents of an eligible student if the student is a dependent for IRS tax purposes. (§99.31(a)(8))
- To comply with a judicial order or lawfully issued subpoena. (§99.31(a)(9))
- To appropriate officials in connection with a health or safety emergency, subject to §99.36. (§99.31(a)(10))
- Information the school has designated as “directory information” under §99.37. (§99.31(a)(11))
- To a victim of an alleged perpetrator of a crime of violence or a non-forcible sex offense, subject to the requirements of §99.39. The disclosure may only include the results of the disciplinary proceeding with respect to that alleged crime or offense, regardless of the finding. (§99.31(a)(13))
- To the public, the results of a disciplinary proceeding, subject to the requirements of §99.39, if the school determines the student is an alleged perpetrator of a crime of violence or non-forcible sex offense and the student has committed a violation of the school’s rules or policies with respect to the allegation made against him or her. (§99.31(a)(14))
- To parents of a student regarding the student’s violation of any Federal, State, or local law, or of any rule or policy of the school, governing the use or possession of alcohol or a controlled substance if the school determines the student committed a disciplinary violation and the student is under the age of 21. (§99.31(a)(15))

Directory Information

The Family Educational Rights and Privacy Act (FERPA), a Federal law, requires that HSM, with certain exceptions, obtain your written consent prior to the disclosure of personally identifiable information from your education records. However, HSM may disclose appropriately designated “directory information” without written consent,

unless you have advised HSM to the contrary in accordance with HSM procedures. The primary purpose of directory information is to allow HSM to include this type of information from your education records in certain school publications. Examples include:

- A playbill, showing the student's role in a drama production;
- The annual yearbook;
- Honor roll or other recognition lists;
- Graduation programs; and
- Sports activity sheets, such as for wrestling, showing weight and height of team members.

Directory information, which is information that is generally not considered harmful or an invasion of privacy if released, can also be disclosed to outside organizations without a student's prior written consent. Outside organizations include, but are not limited to, companies that manufacture class rings or publish yearbooks. In addition, two federal laws require local educational agencies (LEAs) receiving assistance under the Elementary and Secondary Education Act of 1965 (ESEA) to provide military recruiters, upon request, with the following information – names, addresses and telephone listings – unless students have advised the LEA that they do not want their information disclosed without their prior written consent.⁷

If you do not want HSM to disclose directory information from your education records without your prior written consent, you must notify HSM in writing before the first day of classes. HSM has designated the following information as directory information:

- Student's name
- Address
- Telephone listing
- Electronic mail address
- The most recent educational agency or institution attended
- Degrees, honors, and awards received
- Student ID number used to communicate in electronic systems that cannot be used to access education records without a password
- Photograph
- Date and place of birth
- Major field of study
- Dates of attendance
- Grade level

⁷ These laws are: Section 9528 of the Elementary and Secondary Education Act (20 U.S.C. § 7908) and 10 U.S.C. § 503(c).

Certificate in Maternal Health Medical Assisting Program Requirements

Semester Credit Conversion Formula

<i>Class Type</i>	<i>Clock Hours per Credit</i>
Theory	15
Practical Lab	30
Clinical Lab	60

Credits	Type	Clock Hours
22	Theory	330
3	Practical Lab	90
6	Clinical Lab	360
31	Total	780
Cost per Credit Hour:		\$335*
Total Tuition Cost:		\$10,385

Clinical Requirements*

Total Clinical Credits:	6***
Birth Observations:	10
Required Home Births:	1
Required Hospital Births:	1
Required Birth Center Births:	1

*All program credits, clock hours, tuition, and fees are subject to change.

Definitions:

Semester credit: A single unit of credit earned over the course of a 15-week semester.

Part time: Less than 9 credit hours per semester.

Full time: 9 credits or more credits per semester

Clock hours: The number of hours the student spends in contact with HSM staff, whether in a classroom or clinical setting. Students get a 10-minute break each hour making a clock hour 50 minutes in length.

Direct Entry Midwifery Program Requirements

Semester Credit Conversion Formula

<i>Class Type</i>	<i>Clock Hours per Credit</i>
Theory	15
Practical Lab	30
Clinical Lab	60

Credits	Type	Clock Hours
67	Theory	1005
2	Practical Lab	60
24	Clinical Lab	1,440
93	Total	2,505
Cost per Credit Hour:		\$335*
Total Tuition Cost:		\$31,155

Clinical Requirements**

Total Clinical Credits:	24***
Prenatal Exams:	100
Initial Prenatal Exams:	23
Birth Observations:	10
Birth Assists:	20
Birth Managements:	50
Newborn Exams:	50
Postpartum Exams:	50
Continuity of Care:	15
Required Home Births:	5
Required Hospital Births:	2
(See Page 50 for a detailed breakdown of clinical requirements)	

*All program credits, clock hours, tuition, and fees are subject to change.

**These requirements meet or exceed all mandates as defined by the Chapter 467 Florida Statutes and the North American Registry of Midwives (NARM) and are subject to change at any time. See Clinical Requirements section for a complete breakdown of the required clinical experiences.

***Students who have completed their academic requirements but have not finished their clinical requirements must continue to register for Clinical Lab using course codes CLI401, CLI402, and CLI403 until all clinical requirements have been met.

Definitions:

Semester credit: A single unit of credit earned over the course of a 15-week semester.

Part time: Less than 9 credit hours per semester.

Full time: 9 credits or more credits per semester

Clock hours: The number of hours the student spends in contact with HSM staff, whether in a classroom or clinical setting. Students get a 10-minute break each hour making a clock hour 50 minutes in length.

Bachelor of Science in Midwifery Program Requirements

Semester Credit Conversion Formula

Class Type	Clock Hours per Credit
Theory	15
Practical Lab	30
Clinical Lab	60

Program Credit Distribution

Credits	Type	Clock Hours
30	Theory	450
30	Total	450

Cost per Credit Hour: \$335*

Total Tuition Cost: \$10,050

*All program credits, clock hours, tuition, and fees are subject to change.

Definitions:

Semester credit: A single unit of credit earned over the course of a 15-week semester.

Part time: Less than 9 credit hours per semester.

Full time: 9 credits or more credits per semester.

Clock hours: The number of hours the student spends in contact with HSM staff, whether in a classroom or clinical setting. Students get a 10-minute break each hour making a clock hour 50 minutes in length.

Program Structure: 120 total credits required (90 transfer credits + 30 upper-division credits completed online at HSM)

Certificate in Maternal Health Medical Assisting Curriculum

Year 1, Semester 1

Course Number	Course Name	Credits	Clock Hrs.	Delivery
BIO110	Anatomy & Physiology I	3	45	Virtual
BIO110L	Anatomy & Physiology I Lab	1	30	On Campus
MID101	Midwifery Skills I	1	15	On Campus
ETH101	Ethics	1	15	Virtual

Course Number	Course Name	Credits	Clock Hrs.	Delivery
COM101	Communication	2	30	Virtual
STR101	Strategies for Success	1	15	Virtual
CLI101	Clinical Lab	1	60	Clinical Site
CLI102	Clinical Lab	1	60	Clinical Site
CLI103	Clinical Lab	1	60	Clinical Site
PSY102	Psychology for Midwives	1	15	Virtual
MED102	Medical Terms & Charting	1	15	Virtual
Total		14	360	

Year 1, Semester 2

Course Number	Course Name	Credits	Clock Hrs.	Delivery
BIO111	Anatomy & Physiology II	3	45	Virtual
BIO111L	Anatomy & Physiology II Lab	1	30	On Campus
MID102	Midwifery Skills II	2	30	On Campus
BIO103	Microbiology & Epidemiology	3	45	Virtual
BIO103L	Microbiology Lab	1	30	On Campus
DIA201	Screening & Diagnostic Tests	2	30	Virtual
CLI201	Clinical Lab	3	180	Clinical Site
PHA202	Pharmacology	2	30	Virtual
Total		17	420	

Program Total: 31 Credits / 780 Clock Hours

Direct Entry Midwifery Curriculum

Year 1, Semester 1

Course Code	Course Name	Credits	Clock Hours	Delivery
BIO101	Reproductive Anatomy and Physiology	2	30	Virtual
BIO101L	Reproductive Anatomy and Physiology Lab	1	30	On Campus
LAW101	Florida Law and Rule	1	15	Virtual
HIS101	History of Midwifery	1	15	Virtual
ETH101	Ethics	1	15	Virtual
COM101	Communication	2	30	Virtual
DOU101	Labor Support	1	15	Virtual
STR101	Strategies for Success	1	15	Virtual
MID101	Midwifery Skills I	1	15	On Campus
CLI101	Clinical Lab	1	60	Clinical Site
Total		12	240	

Year 1, Semester 2

Course Code	Course Name	Credits	Clock Hours	Delivery
BIO112	Genetics, Embryology, & Fetal Development	3	45	Virtual
NUT102	Nutrition	3	45	Virtual
RES102	Research Analysis	1	15	Virtual
PSY102	Psychology for Midwives	1	15	Virtual
MED102	Medical Terms & Charting	1	15	Virtual
MID102	Midwifery Skills II	2	30	On Campus
CLI102	Clinical Lab	1	60	Clinical Site
Total		12	225	

Year 1, Semester 3

Course Code	Course Name	Credits	Clock Hours	Delivery
BIO103	Microbiology & Epidemiology	3	45	Virtual
BIO103L	Microbiology Lab	1	30	On Campus

Course Code	Course Name	Credits	Clock Hours	Delivery
LAC103	Breastfeeding	3	45	Virtual
WEL103	Alternative Modalities I	2	30	Virtual
MID103	Midwifery Skills III	2	30	On Campus
CLI103	Clinical Lab	1	60	Clinical Site
Total		12	240	

Year 2, Semester 1

Course Code	Course Name	Credits	Clock Hours	Delivery
MID201	Antepartum	4	60	Virtual
WEL201	Alternative Modalities II	1	15	Virtual
DIA201	Screening and Diagnostic Tests	2	30	Virtual
MID211	Midwifery Skills IV	2	30	On Campus
CLI201	Clinical Lab	3	180	Clinical Site
Total		12	315	

Year 2, Semester 2

Course Code	Course Name	Credits	Clock Hours	Delivery
MID202	Intrapartum	4	60	Virtual
PHA202	Pharmacology	2	30	Virtual
MID212	Midwifery Skills V	2	30	On Campus
CLI202	Clinical Lab	3	180	Clinical Site
Total		11	300	

Year 2, Semester 3

Course Code	Course Name	Credits	Clock Hours	Delivery
MID203	Postpartum	3	45	Virtual
PED203	Newborn	3	45	Virtual
MID213	Midwifery Skills VI	2	30	On Campus

Course Code	Course Name	Credits	Clock Hours	Delivery
CLI203	Clinical Lab	3	180	Clinical Site
Total		11	300	

Year 3, Semester 1

Course Code	Course Name	Credits	Clock Hours	Delivery
MID301	Gynecology and Women's Health	2	30	Virtual
MID311	Protocol Development	3	45	Virtual
MID321	Collaborative Management	1	15	Virtual
CLI301	Clinical Lab	4	240	Clinical Site
Total		10	330	

Year 3, Semester 2

Course Code	Course Name	Credits	Clock Hours	Delivery
MID302	Establishing a Practice	2	30	Virtual
MID312	Issues in Professional Midwifery	1	15	Virtual
CUL302	Religions and Cultures	1	15	Virtual
MID332	NARM Exam Prep	1	15	Virtual
CLI302	Clinical Lab	4	240	Clinical Site
Total		9	315	

Year 3, Semester 3

Course Code	Course Name	Credits	Clock Hours	Delivery
CLI303	Clinical Lab	4	240	Clinical Site
Total		4	240	

Program Total: 93 Credits / 2,505 Clock Hours

Note: Students who have completed their academic requirements but have not finished their clinical requirements must continue to register for Clinical Lab using course codes CLI401, CLI402, and CLI403 until all clinical requirements have been met.

Course numbers are based on the abbreviated subject name, the year, a random number, and the semester. For example, BIO 201 is a Biology course taught in the second year, first semester. The letter L denotes Practical Lab. Please see full course descriptions with clock hour requirements at the end of this catalog.

Bachelor of Science Midwifery Curriculum

Year 1, Semester 1

Course Number	Course Title	Credits	Clock Hours	Gen Ed Category
COM401	Advanced Communication for Health Professionals	3	45	Communication
STA402	Applied Statistics for Healthcare	3	45	Mathematics
PSY403	Psychology of Childbearing Families	3	45	Social Science
ETH404	Ethics and Human Rights in Global Health	3	45	Humanities / Ethics
CUL405	Cultural Anthropology in Maternal Health	3	45	Social Science / Culture
Total		15	225	

Year 1, Semester 2

Course Number	Course Title	Credits	Clock Hours	Gen Ed Category
BIO406	Biology of Reproduction and Development	3	45	Natural Science
WEL407	Environmental Health and Community Wellness	3	45	Natural Science
SOC408	Sociology of Birth and Reproductive Health	3	45	Social Science
HIS409	History and Philosophy of Midwifery	3	45	Humanities / History
RES410	Research Methods and Evidence-Based Practice	3	45	Interdisciplinary / Writing
Total		15	225	

Program Total: 30 Credits / 450 Clock Hours

Optional Capstone Seminar

Students may elect to complete MID411 - Capstone Seminar (3 credits / 45 clock hours) as a culminating experience focused on professional synthesis, portfolio development, or scholarly inquiry in lieu of one of the above courses

Clinical Lab Policies

Overview⁸

Every semester, students will enroll in clinical lab to gain real world experience. Throughout these labs, each student will work closely with a Licensed Midwife/preceptor to learn midwifery. Students start by observing, and as they gain

⁸ See the Student Handbook for an in-depth look at the clinical training process.

skills and experience, they become supervised assistants, and eventually act as a supervised primary.

Student's Clinical Responsibilities:⁹

At the beginning of the preceptor relationship, the student and preceptor will meet to determine their mutual expectations and responsibilities. The preceptor may require the student to complete office duties or other tasks as part of the training. Students are responsible for all travel costs related to clinical duties, including room and board, when necessary.

Students will:

- Keep their CPR and NRP certifications up to date
- Follow the rules and policies set by their preceptor
- Wear their student ID whenever they are working in a clinical capacity
- Have a reliable means of communication (preferably cell phone)
- Have reliable transportation
- Abide by HIPAA regulations (see below)
- Obey Florida midwifery statutes
- Be professional
 - Punctual
 - Appropriately dressed
 - Positive attitude
 - Respectful
- Be ethical
- Be honest

Students will not:

- Practice midwifery without a preceptor present, except in an emergency
- Use the title “midwife” before being licensed
- Falsify records
- Practice midwifery when under the influence of drugs or alcohol or when otherwise impaired (debilitating illness, medication, etc.)
- Fail to show up at a birth while on call

If anyone requests that the student perform clinical duties that violate Florida statutes or these policies, the student should decline, discuss the matter privately with the preceptor, and inform the Clinical Coordinator within 24 hours.

HIPAA

The student must abide by all HIPAA confidentiality regulations. Students will not use the real names of clients, midwives, or physicians when referring to client cases outside of the clinical site. Students should use client codes or code names instead of real names when submitting clinical experience documentation. Students are encouraged to keep a private log of client names and codes to use as a reference for documentation. When a student submits forms that verify clinical experiences to the

⁹ See “Code of Conduct” section on page 33 for more information about expected behavior, and consequences for non-compliance.

school or NARM, all names should be redacted. Client names are not to be included in emails or text messages. If a student violates HIPAA guidelines, s/he will have to attend a performance review with the Clinical Coordinator. The student may be put on clinical probation and removed from clinical lab work for the remainder of the semester. If a formal complaint is issued by either the preceptor or client, the student may be dismissed from the midwifery program.

Professional Liability

As part of the tuition and fees structure, students enrolled in the Program are charged a **mandatory insurance fee**. This fee provides coverage under a **School-maintained professional liability (malpractice) insurance policy** to assist students with legal expenses related to professional liability claims (e.g., malpractice claims) that may arise from participation in clinical training or activities required by the Program. **The only exception is VBACs (Vaginal Birth After Cesarean) in homebirth settings, which are not covered.**

If a Student becomes aware of any incident, occurrence, or situation that may reasonably give rise to a malpractice or professional liability claim, the Student must notify the Clinical Coordinator in writing within **24 hours** of the incident or as soon as practicable. Failure to report an incident in a timely manner may affect the Student's eligibility for coverage under the professional liability policy.

The School's professional liability insurance is subject to the terms, conditions, and limits of the policy. While the School provides coverage for most clinical activities, it **cannot guarantee that sufficient funds will always be available to cover all legal expenses in the event of multiple claims or significant litigation**. If coverage limits are exceeded, the Student will be personally responsible for any additional legal costs, settlements, or judgments arising from professional liability claims.

Given the limitations of the School's policy, the School strongly recommends that Students obtain **individual malpractice insurance policies** to supplement the School's coverage. This provides an additional layer of protection and ensures that the Student is adequately insured in the event of a legal claim..

Clinical Requirements for Direct Entry Midwifery Program

The following is a list of clinical experiences required for graduation:

Phase	Initial Prenatal Exams	Prenatal Exams ¹	Full Continuity of Care ²	Partial Continuity of Care ³	Vaginal Sutures	Births ⁴	Newborn Exams	Postpartum Exams
Phase 1: Observations						10		
Phase 2: Observations as Supervised Assistant	3	25				20	20	10
Phase 3: Clinical Management as Supervised Primary	20	75	5	10	5	50	30	40

Total⁵	23	100	5	10	5	80	50	50
1. Includes Initial Prenatal Exams and all other Prenatal Exams 2. Includes at least 5 Prenatal Exams over 2 trimesters, 1 Birth, 1 Newborn Exam and 2 Postpartum Exams on the same woman within 6 weeks of the birth 3. Includes at least 1 Birth and 1 Prenatal Exam on the same woman 4. Includes all Births, whether or not they qualify as Continuity of Care 5. Florida Law requires students to care for at least 50 women in each of the antepartum, intrapartum, and postpartum periods, although the same woman does not need to be seen in all three.								

All clinical requirements are in compliance with Florida Statute 467 and NARM.

Regulations require:

- A minimum of 5 births must be conducted in the home
- A minimum of 2 births must be planned hospital births, which cannot be during an intrapartum transport, but can be an antepartum transport
- No more than five percent (5%) of the required intrapartum managements shall include TRANSFERS in active labor.
- In all categories, the supervised assistant requirements must be completed before the student midwife can begin as a supervised primary midwife.

Clinical Progress Report:

The Clinical Director will speak with each student to review clinical progress at the end of each semester. New students and those on probation may be required to meet with clinical staff more than once per semester if needed.

Clinical Documentation

Students will track their clinical experiences using the online platform, Typhon. All clinical case logs need to be entered into Typhon on a weekly basis to allow ample time for preceptors to review. Typhon will not accept case or time logs that are entered in more than 2 weeks following the encounter. The Clinical Coordinator will audit student case logs monthly and semesterly to monitor student progress.

Clinical Hours

Students will record their clinical hours using the online platform, Typhon. All hours need to be recorded in Typhon within one week. Clinical hours do not include time spent driving to the clinic, hospital, or birth site. 60 clinical hours equal one Clinical Lab credit. The student must complete the minimum required hours based on how many Clinical Lab credits s/he is registered for. For example, if the student is registered for 3 credits of Clinical Lab, s/he must complete 180 Clinical Lab clock hours. It is likely that a student will complete more than the required number of clinical hours each semester, based on the arrangements made with the preceptor.

Request for Extension

If a student does not complete all of the required Clinical Lab hours, s/he may meet with the Clinical Coordinator to request additional time to complete the remaining hours. The student must provide adequate reason for the request, which will be granted at the Clinical Coordinator's discretion. A grade of IP (In Progress) will be given until the hours are completed. If the hours are not completed by the deadline set by the Clinical Coordinator (1 semester or less), the student will fail the course.

Issues at the Clinical Site

If a problem arises between a preceptor and a student, either can contact the Clinical Coordinator to request mediation. If problems are not resolved by the end of the semester, the student may be withdrawn from that clinical site, and a new preceptor will be secured the following semester.

Preceptors have the right to dismiss students from the site for poor performance or refusal to appear at a birth while on call. If a student is dismissed from the clinical site, that student will have to attend a disciplinary performance review with the Clinical Coordinator. The Clinical Coordinator may decide to dismiss the student from the midwifery program, put the student on clinical probation and give a failing grade for the current Clinical Lab, or require the student to retake relevant coursework. Any further issues while on probation will result in dismissal from the midwifery program.

Clinical Probation

Students who fail to show up for a birth while on call or who have poor performance at the clinical site will be given Clinical Probation. Students on Clinical Probation will not be allowed to continue clinical work until the next semester, which may result in failing the clinical lab. The following semester, the student's preceptor may submit weekly or monthly progress reports to the Clinical Coordinator. Students on Clinical Probation will meet with the Clinical Coordinator to discuss how they will improve in future semesters and may be assigned to a different preceptor.

Students who allow their CPR or NRP certification to lapse will be put on temporary Clinical Probation until they regain their certificate(s). These students will not be allowed to complete clinical work until HSM has their new certification on file.

Students may not change clinical sites without the Clinical Coordinator's approval. If a student changes sites without permission, s/he will not receive credit for any time spent at the unapproved site and must attend a performance review.

NARM Exam

During students' third year, they will take a course to help them prepare for the NARM exam. This exam is required for both the CPM and LM credentials. First, a student will the Florida Department of health, then they will register and take the exam. Certification and licensure will be granted upon passing the exam and paying all required fees. More information can be found here:

<http://narm.org/category/testing/>

Certification

Upon graduation, students may [apply](#) to the Florida Department of Health to become an LM. Once they receive their Florida midwifery license (LM), they can use that to apply to NARM for their CPM by using the LM equivalency application found here:

[State Licensed Midwife - North American Registry of Midwives \(narm.org\)](#)

CPM vs. LM

The CPM (Certified Professional Midwife) credential is accepted in [most states](#), but Florida is not one of them. In order to practice in Florida, students must apply for their LM (Licensed Midwife) credential. However, both credentials require testing, and Florida accepts the NARM test results as part of the [application for LM](#). Because the application process is similar, and the test qualifies for both credentials, many students will apply for both after graduation.

Employment

After the student has graduated and received an LM and/or CPM, s/he has several options for employment. Some new midwives will join a birth center. Many new midwives will start their own practices close to home. Our curriculum covers the steps necessary to start a practice in Florida, so students will be prepared for this step when they graduate. Although HSM cannot guarantee employment, our administrative staff will help students explore their employment options.

Code of Conduct

Student Behavior

HSM students are expected to be ethical. Suspected violations should be reported to the Academic or Clinical Coordinator. Violations include but are not limited to:

- **Illegal activities:** Students will act in a professional and ethical manner. They will observe all laws and regulations, inside and outside of the classroom. Students will become familiar with and observe HIPAA laws to protect patient confidentiality. The Florida Department of Health may deny Licensed Midwife applicants who have a criminal record.
- **Cheating:** Cheating of any kind will not be tolerated.
- **Plagiarism:** Plagiarism is when a person claims that someone else's work is his/her own, fails to properly cite sources, or claims that a previously existing work is new and original. All assignments will be original works created by the student with sources properly cited.
- **Deception:** It is not permitted to mislead others, by either action or omission. This is especially important in clinical settings, where a client's choices are often based on the information given to them by medical staff.
- **Professionalism:** Students will dress and act professionally in the classroom, at the clinical site, and when with clients. Disrespectful or unprofessional behavior may result in being dismissed from the preceptor site.

Performance Review

Every year, students will attend a performance review with the Clinical Coordinator and/or Academic Director. This review will evaluate the student's academic and clinical performance over the past year. A poor review may result in probation, dismissal, or non-placement with a preceptor until any issues are resolved.

Disciplinary Performance Reviews may also be scheduled as needed.

Some areas that the Performance Review may cover include:

- Grades
- Classroom behavior

- Ethics
- Professionalism
- Respect for preceptor, instructors, staff and students
- Respect for clients and their families
- Progress learning clinical skills
- Punctuality and attendance
- Preserving confidentiality and observing HIPAA regulations
- Maintaining a positive attitude
- Dressing appropriately
- Consistent and effective communication

Conditions for Dismissal

Students may be dismissed for the following reasons:

- Failing more than two classes
- Failing more than one clinical exam
- Violating academic probation
- Violating the code of conduct
- Failure to show up to a birth when on call
- Being dismissed by more than one preceptor for poor performance or behavior
- Showing up to class, clinic, or a birth under the influence of drugs or alcohol.
- Not improving after a poor performance review
- Not paying financial obligations in a timely manner

Dismissal and Re-Admission

When a student is dismissed, s/he will meet with the Academic and/or Clinical Coordinator to discuss the reason for dismissal and the possibility for readmission. Students who are dismissed for violence, HIPAA violations, drug or alcohol abuse, or illegal activity may not be readmitted.

If a student desires to be readmitted after dismissal, s/he may reapply for the program one year after being dismissed (or if dismissed for failure to pay financial obligations, s/he may apply after those obligations have been met.)

A student applying for readmission will have to complete all of the normal entrance requirements, including interview, application and enrollment fees. However, instead of writing an essay titled “Why I Want to be a Midwife”, the essay will be titled “My Plan for Success” and will include what steps the student has taken to rectify his or her past violations, and how the student intends to avoid making similar future violations. Readmission will be granted at the discretion of the Executive Director, Academic Dean and Clinical Dean. If a student is readmitted, s/he will be placed on Academic Probation the first semester. Any violations during that probationary period may be cause for permanent expulsion.

Formal Complaints, Appeals & Grievances

Any complaints or appeals should be submitted in writing to the Academic/ Clinical Coordinator. The Academic Director and/or Clinic Director will investigate the situation, and either resolve it, if possible, or escalate it to the Clinical Dean,

Academic Dean or Executive Director, as appropriate. The Executive Director may call for mediation between the student and any appropriate parties. Complaints and appeals will be addressed within 60 days after being filed. If the student is not satisfied with the results, the student may file a formal grievance with the Executive Director. Formal complaints, appeals, grievances and their resolutions will be kept on file for 7 years. If a student has a complaint or grievance that is against the Executive Director, the student will need to contact the Disciplinary Committee of the Board of Trustees at:

disciplinary.committee@HeritageSchoolofMidwifery.com

Discrimination against students, staff, or faculty who file complaints is not permitted. Discrimination or retaliation of any kind will be documented and could be potential grounds for dismissal or termination of employment. HSM maintains confidentiality whenever such is legally and morally possible. The Executive Director will only notify other staff members of an issue if such notification is essential to resolution of the issue. Issues will not ever be shared outside of school employees, except as required by law and for accreditation purposes.

If, 60 days after filing a grievance with the Executive Director, the student is still not satisfied with the resolution, s/he may file a formal grievance with the Commission for Independent Education. They will act on all written and signed complaints. To do so please write a letter or send an e-mail containing the following information:

1. Name of Student (or individual wishing to voice their concern)
2. Address of Student (or individual wishing to voice their concern)
3. Phone Number
4. Name of Institution
5. Location of the Institution (City)
6. Dates of Attendance
7. A full description of the problem and any other documentation that will support your claim such as enrollment agreements, correspondence, etc.
8. The process of the Commission involves contacting the institution to obtain their response to your concern. If you do not want the Commission to contact the institution you are attending, you must state so in your documentation; however, doing so will greatly hinder the Commission's ability to assist you with your concern.

Send Letter To: *Commission for Independent Education 325 W. Gaines Street, Suite 1414 Tallahassee, FL. 32399-0400* Or E-mail: CIEINFO@fldoe.org Or Fax: 850-245-3238

Note: Documents received in this office are considered public record. Confidentiality cannot be guaranteed. This office cannot give legal advice to any individual or take any legal action on behalf of any individual. We will investigate your concern to see what assistance, if any, we may be able to offer.

Fiscal Information

Financial Policy

Tuition and fees are subject to change with notice. Tuition and fees for all registered classes each semester are due by the first day of the semester. After the first day of class, a \$50 late fee per course will be charged. If tuition and fees are not paid in full by the add/drop date, the student will be automatically dropped from the course(s).

Semester payments may be made in full by the first day of the semester, through our monthly installment payment plan with agreement signed, or in advance through our monthly payment plan. Payment may be submitted to the Executive Director by cash, check, or Stripe. Payment made through Stripe via Debit, Credit, or ACH bank transfer will incur a 4% electronic processing fee per transaction. Paying by cash or check will not have any additional fees (unless an NSF occurs). Please make checks out to Heritage School of Midwifery.

Scholarships and Assistance

Because we are a new school, many of the traditional loans and scholarships are not yet available to our students. We are not eligible for Title IV funds (government loans/scholarships/grants). Here are some of the ways a student can finance their tuition:

Institutional Scholarship:

Heritage School of Midwifery and Natural Health Sciences offers four institutional scholarships:

- Student Referral Scholarship
 - Student Referral Scholarship: Students who refer a new applicant will receive a \$500 scholarship once the referred student applies, is accepted, enrolls, and successfully completes the first two weeks of their first term
- 3-year Direct Entry Midwifery Program Specific:
 - Student Ambassador Scholarship: Recurring \$2,000 scholarship per semester to serve as Student Ambassador for HSM; competitive based.
- Bachelor of Science in Midwifery (BSM) specific:
 - Preceptor Scholarship: Approved preceptors receive a \$1,000 scholarship per semester for their clinical education support.
 - Faculty Scholarship: Active faculty teaching in any HSM program receive a \$1,000 scholarship per semester taught.

Students interested in learning more about scholarship eligibility, application procedures, and award conditions should contact the Student Services Officer for current policies and procedures.

Institutional Payment Plan:

Students may choose to pay tuition in four monthly installments per semester, with payments beginning at the start of each term. This plan offers:

- Interest-free payments
- Predictable monthly budgeting
- Flexibility for both full-time and part-time students

A typical monthly payment for a full-time student not receiving additional aid is approximately \$1,000/month during the first year.

Monthly payments in advance:

Students can pay the school each month for the upcoming semester. Payments will vary, based on how many classes the student is taking and whether the student is getting additional funds elsewhere. A full-time student who isn't receiving any other sort of aid can expect to pay around \$968/month for the first year. Semester tuition needs to be paid in full by the start of each semester. The advantage of this option is that there is no interest, so the total cost is significantly less than a loan, and there is no balance due upon graduation.

Florida Department of Education Vocational Rehabilitation (VR):

Full Tuition Funding for Eligible Students; HSM is an Approved Vendor with the Florida Department of Education's Vocational Rehabilitation Program. If eligible, VR may cover your full program cost, including tuition and required fees.

- To begin:
 - Go to <https://www.rehabworks.org/> and contact your Area's contact or
 - Email Student Services Officer for more info and/or assistance.

Crowdfunding:

There are several sites, where students can raise money for their education. It is up to the student to create and promote their crowdfunding campaign and ensure that they have enough money for tuition and expenses.

Private and/or Personal Loans:

These could be from a bank, credit union, or a friend/family member. Note that loans usually have interest and will increase the overall cost of your tuition. Personal loans are available to those who qualify. Requirements will vary by lender.

Tuition and Fees

Application Fee:	\$150 (non-refundable)
Enrollment Fee:	\$100
Tuition:	\$335 per credit hour, \$31,155 for the full program
Technology Fee:	\$70 per semester
Insurance Fee:	\$100 per semester*
Equipment Fees:	\$115 per semester
Diploma Fee:	\$100 upon graduation. Includes 3 transcripts
Transcript Fee:	\$12 per extra transcript

Textbooks & Supplies: ~\$3,000 (estimate, not purchased from school)

*Fee only charged for Direct Entry Midwifery & Certificate of Maternal Health Medical Assisting Programs

Example of first semester tuition and fees:

Application Fee:	1	x	\$150 =	\$ 150
Enrollment Fee:	1	x	\$100 =	\$ 100
Technology Fee	1	x	\$ 70 =	\$ 70
Insurance Fee:	1	x	\$100 =	\$ 100
Equipment Fee:	1	x	\$115 =	\$ 115
Tuition:	12	x	\$335 =	\$4,020

Total: **\$4,555**

This example assumes that the student is in the direct entry midwifery program who is matriculating and not transferring credit. The first semester has the highest cost, due to the application and enrollment fees.

Tuition plus fees by semester for full-time students with no transferred credits:

Year	Semester	Credits	Cost
1	1	12	\$4,555 (includes Application and Enrollment)
1	2	12	\$4,305
1	3	12	\$4,305
2	1	12	\$4,305
2	2	11	\$3,970
2	3	11	\$3,970
3	1	10	\$3,635
3	2	9	\$3,300
3	3	4	\$1,725 (includes Diploma Fee)

Total tuition plus fees: **\$34,070**

Estimated cost for textbooks & supplies: \$3,000

Total Program cost: \$37,070.

Students are charged only for the classes they take, so tuition may be less than shown in this example for students who have credit transfers.

Drop/Add Period and 100% Refund Provision

The School observes a **drop/add period of one week or 10% of the instructional period**, whichever is less.

If a student withdraws **within the drop/add period**, they are entitled to a **100% refund of all tuition and refundable fees**, including:

- Charges for books, supplies, or equipment **that are returned in unused and resalable condition**

Program Withdrawal and Refund Policy

Withdrawals must be submitted in writing to the Executive Director. Refunds will be granted as follows:

- The application fee (\$150) is non-refundable.
- Tuition and refundable fees will be refunded in full if student withdraws before the add/drop date, which is at the end of Week 2.
- For withdrawals **after the drop/add period**, the refund schedule is as follows:

Timing	Refund
Before Program Start Date	Full refund of all tuition and refundable fees, excluding the non-refundable application and enrollment fees
By the end of Week 2 of instruction	100% of tuition paid will be refunded
After Week 2 of instruction	No refund of tuition will be issued

- Tuition will not be refunded after the last day to withdraw.
- All refunds will be granted within 30 days of withdrawal. The date of withdrawal will be determined by the date that the Executive Director receives notice in writing of withdrawal, the add/drop date if student fails to pay full semester tuition, or the dismissal date if a student is dismissed.
- Textbooks and supplies are purchased from independent suppliers and are subject to the suppliers' refund policies.

Determining Withdrawal

The School will determine the student's withdrawal status using the following:

- Last Day of Attendance (LDA): The last day the student engaged in any academic activity, such as class attendance, exams, clinical participation, or submitting assignments
- Date of Determination (DOD): The date the School identifies the student is no longer enrolled, either via written notice or through administrative review (e.g., faculty reports or inactivity)

This process is used whether or not the student submits formal notice of withdrawal.

Refund Calculation and Processing

- Refunds are calculated based on the LDA and DOD
- The School does not consider all tuition "earned" after minimal enrollment
- Refunds will be processed and disbursed within 30 days of the DOD

Cancellation or Termination of the Enrollment Agreement

A student may cancel this Enrollment Agreement within three (3) business days of signing and receive a full refund of all monies paid, including tuition and fees, except for the non-refundable application and enrollment fees.

After the three-day period but before the program start date, a student is entitled to a refund of all monies paid, excluding:

- The non-refundable application and enrollment fees
- A registration fee not to exceed 10% of the contract price or \$100, whichever is less

Cancellations must be submitted in writing via certified mail, email, or hand delivery. For students under legal age, the cancellation must be submitted by a parent or legal guardian.

Course or Program Cancellation Policy

We reserve the right to cancel or postpone classes for any reason. However, we will do our best to ensure that such decisions are made well before the first class. If classes are canceled, all students will receive a 100% refund of all related tuition and refundable fees within 30 days of cancellation.

Re-Admission After Withdrawal

To be considered for enrollment after withdrawal from the program a student must: be in good academic standing and current in all financial obligations to the school.

A student who returns to the program within 1 year of their withdrawal date will not need to submit a new application or pay associated fees. They will be required to sit for an interview with the admission committee and sign a new enrollment agreement.

A student who returns to the program more than 1 year after their withdrawal date will need to complete all re-application paperwork and pay associated application and enrollment fees. The student may need to retake certain academic courses if it's been more than 5 years since they last completed them. If the student did not complete their clinical externship requirements prior to withdrawing, they will continue where they left off. If they have completed their clinical externship requirements and it's been more than 3 years since the student has taken a clinical lab course, they must register for an additional clinical lab course and attend 10 additional out of hospital births as primary under supervision.

Course Descriptions

Certificate & Lower-Division Courses

BIO 110 – Anatomy & Physiology I (3 credits / 45 clock hours)

Programs: Certificate, Diploma, Associate Degree

This course provides a comprehensive study of the structure and function of the human body, focusing on cells, tissues, and the integumentary, skeletal, muscular, and nervous systems. Emphasis is placed on understanding normal anatomy and physiology as a foundation for healthcare practice.

BIO 110L – Anatomy & Physiology I Lab (1 credit / 30 clock hours)

Programs: Certificate, Diploma, Associate Degree

Hands-on laboratory component accompanying BIO 111, providing practical experience with anatomical models, microscopy, and physiological demonstrations to reinforce lecture concepts.

BIO 111 – Anatomy & Physiology II (3 credits / 45 clock hours)

Programs: Certificate, Diploma, Associate Degree

This course continues the comprehensive study of human body systems, focusing on the endocrine, cardiovascular, lymphatic, respiratory, digestive, urinary, and reproductive systems. Students explore homeostasis, disease processes, and clinical applications relevant to maternal healthcare.

BIO 111L – Anatomy & Physiology II Lab (1 credit / 30 clock hours)

Programs: Certificate, Diploma, Associate Degree

Hands-on laboratory component accompanying BIO 112, providing practical experience with dissection, physiological experiments, and clinical case studies to enhance understanding of body systems.

Year 1, Semester 1

Credits: 12 / Clock Hours: 240

BIO 101 – Reproductive Anatomy & Physiology (2 credits / 30 clock hours)

Programs: Diploma, Associate Degree

Building on the foundation laid in the basic Anatomy and Physiology courses, this course is a comprehensive study of the structure and function of the human male and female reproductive systems. This course includes hands-on laboratory experience to enhance the students' understanding of the concepts presented through lecture.

BIO 101L – Reproductive Anatomy & Physiology Lab (1 credit / 30 clock hours)

Programs: Diploma, Associate Degree

Hands-on laboratory component accompanying BIO 101.

LAW 101 – Florida Law and Rule (1 credit / 15 clock hours)

Programs: Diploma, Associate Degree

This course focuses on Florida Statute 467, the Midwifery Practice Act, and 64B24 in the Administrative Code. It covers the law and rule specific to the practice of direct-entry midwives in Florida, the history of the law, the legislative and rule-making processes, and the role of the Council of Licensed Midwifery, the Department of Health, and the Midwives Association of Florida.

HIS 101 – History of Midwifery (1 credit / 15 clock hours)

Programs: Diploma, Associate Degree

This course delves into the history of midwifery throughout the world, with emphasis on the history of midwifery in the United States and how that history impacts the practice of midwifery today.

ETH 101 – Ethics (1 credit / 15 clock hours)

Programs: Certificate, Diploma, Associate Degree

This course presents the theory and practice of informed consent, mutual decision-making, patient privacy and HIPAA. It seeks to provide an understanding of the importance and complexity of ethics in healthcare, explores the role of the students' own ethics and personal opinions and how this can affect the care they provide.

COM 101 – Communication (2 credits / 30 clock hours)

Programs: Certificate, Diploma, Associate Degree

This course covers basic elements of interpersonal communication including both verbal and non-verbal communication, cultural differences, effective listening, coaching, asking powerful questions, conflict resolution, counseling, facilitating healing, and teaching.

DOU 101 – Labor Support (1 credit / 15 clock hours)

Programs: Diploma, Associate Degree

This course explores the physiology of pain and pain relief, natural comfort measures for labor and why they work, and the role of the doula.

STR 101 – Strategies for Success (1 credit / 15 clock hours)

Programs: Certificate, Diploma, Associate Degree

This course covers essentials for student success including time management, note-taking skills, test-taking skills, effective studying, writing a research paper, appropriate use of technology, decision-making, problem-solving, stress-management, and cultivating a healthy balance of home/personal life and educational/clinical requirements.

MID 101 – Midwifery Skills I (1 credit / 15 clock hours)

Programs: Certificate, Diploma, Associate Degree

Matriculating students only

This series covers equipment used by midwives, how to use and care for that equipment, physical exams, gynecological exams and pap smears, venipuncture, injections, fetal monitoring, suturing, newborn exams, and all midwifery skills outlined in The Practical Skills Guide for Midwifery.

CLI 101 – Clinical Lab (1 credit / 60 clock hours)

Programs: Certificate, Diploma, Associate Degree

Matriculating students only

Students work directly with a qualified Preceptor(s) in one or more clinical sites throughout their education, and progress through a tiered process of observation, assistance and management in the Antepartum, Intrapartum and Postpartum period. Clinical experiences include participating in prenatal and postpartum appointments, labor and birth, and office procedures for midwifery practices.

CLI 102 – Clinical Lab (1 credit / 60 clock hours)

Programs: Certificate
Matriculating students only

Students work directly with a qualified Preceptor(s) in one or more clinical sites throughout their education. Clinical experiences include participating in prenatal and postpartum appointments, labor and birth, and office procedures for midwifery practices.

CLI 103 – Clinical Lab (1 credit / 60 clock hours)

Programs: Certificate
Matriculating students only

Students work directly with a qualified Preceptor(s) in one or more clinical sites throughout their education. Clinical experiences include participating in prenatal and postpartum appointments, labor and birth, and office procedures for midwifery practices.

Year 1, Semester 2

Credits: 12 | Clock Hours: 240

BIO 112 – Genetics, Embryology, & Fetal Development (3 credits / 45 clock hours)

Programs: Diploma, Associate Degree

This course is a study of basic genetic principles including the structure of DNA and genes, principles of inheritance, the origins of genetic malfunction, and the normal development of a human from conception through birth.

NUT 102 – Nutrition (3 credits / 45 clock hours)

Programs: Diploma, Associate Degree

This course explores the relationship between nutrition and health and the impact diet has on a woman's reproductive health, pregnancy, birth, postpartum, and lactation. Topics covered include an in-depth study of the physiology of digestion, assimilation, and GI health; basic nutritional principles relevant to all humans; specific unique nutritional needs of the pregnant and lactating woman; nutrients and their sources; special dietary needs and choices including food allergies and sensitivities and vegan and vegetarian diets; signs of nutrient deficiencies and PICA; and nutritional evaluation.

RES 102 – Research Analysis (1 credit / 15 clock hours)

Programs: Diploma, Associate Degree

This course is an introduction to the types, quality, and formats of scholarly research. Students will evaluate articles presented in peer-reviewed journals, discuss how the research presented applies to midwifery practice, and learn the principles of statistics as they pertain to medical research.

PSY 102 – Psychology for Midwives (1 credit / 15 clock hours)

Programs: Certificate, Diploma, Associate Degree

This course focuses on normal psychology as it relates to childbearing families. Specific topics covered include temperaments, body image, eating disorders, sexual abuse, domestic violence, motherhood and fatherhood, psychological responses to unexpected outcomes, and recognizing unhealthy psychological issues that may require referral to a counselor or psychologist.

MED 102 – Medical Terminology and Charting (1 credit / 15 clock hours)

Programs: Certificate, Diploma, Associate Degree

This course focuses on learning terminology and abbreviations specific to medical practice and the importance of complete and accurate charting. Students will become familiar with both paper and electronic charting options.

MID 102 – Midwifery Skills II (2 credits / 30 clock hours)

Programs: Certificate, Diploma, Associate Degree

Prerequisite: Midwifery Skills I, matriculating students only

This series covers equipment used by midwives, how to use and care for that equipment, physical exams, gynecological exams and pap smears, venipuncture, injections, fetal monitoring, suturing, newborn exams, and all midwifery skills outlined in The Practical Skills Guide for Midwifery.

CLI 102 – Clinical Lab (1 credit / 60 clock hours)

Programs: Diploma, Associate Degree

Matriculating students only

Students work directly with a qualified Preceptor(s) in one or more clinical sites throughout their education and progress through a tiered process of observation, assistance and management in the Antepartum, Intrapartum and Postpartum period. Clinical experiences include participating in prenatal and postpartum appointments, labor and birth, and office procedures for midwifery practices.

Year 1, Semester 3

Credits: 12 | Clock Hours: 240

BIO 103 – Microbiology & Epidemiology (3 credits / 45 clock hours)

Programs: Certificate, Diploma, Associate Degree

This course provides the student with a broad overview of the principles of microbiology relevant to midwifery including; universal precautions, importance and maintenance of a healthy microbiome, identification of common gynecologic infections, choosing appropriate lab tests and interpreting commonly ordered lab reports. Students will also learn and apply basic concepts of epidemiology as they relate to midwifery and public health, including disease prevention and identification, prenatal

and postnatal testing, statistics, and policymaking. Included is the HIV/AIDS training required for Florida midwifery licensure.

BIO 103L – Microbiology Lab (1 credit / 30 clock hours)

Programs: Certificate, Diploma, Associate Degree

This course includes hands-on laboratory experience to enhance the students' understanding of the concepts presented through lecture.

LAC 103 – Breastfeeding (3 credits / 45 clock hours)

Programs: Diploma, Associate Degree

This course is an in-depth study of the anatomy and physiology of lactation, enabling the student to accurately evaluate a baby at the breast, identify and implement solutions to common breastfeeding problems, offer effective breastfeeding education for clients, and understand the role of lactation specialists in the community.

WEL 103 – Alternative Modalities I (2 credits / 30 clock hours)

Programs: Diploma, Associate Degree

This two-part series covers many non-pharmacologic methods of treatment and prevention of specific health issues common to pregnancy, birth, and postpartum; including herbs, homeopathy, essential oils, Chinese medicine, and others. Students learn to grow and make their own herbal preparations. Also included is an introduction to other modalities that may be available in our communities, such as chiropractic, acupuncture, and massage therapy.

MID 103 – Midwifery Skills III (2 credits / 30 clock hours)

Programs: Diploma, Associate Degree

Prerequisite: Midwifery Skills II, matriculating students only

This series covers equipment used by midwives, how to use and care for that equipment, physical exams, gynecological exams and pap smears, venipuncture, injections, fetal monitoring, suturing, newborn exams, and all midwifery skills outlined in The Practical Skills Guide for Midwifery.

CLI 103 – Clinical Lab (1 credit / 60 clock hours)

Programs: Diploma, Associate Degree

Matriculating students only

Students work directly with a qualified Preceptor(s) in one or more clinical sites throughout their education and progress through a tiered process of observation, assistance and management in the Antepartum, Intrapartum and Postpartum period. Clinical experiences include participating in prenatal and postpartum appointments, labor and birth, and office procedures for Midwifery practices.

Year 2, Semester 1

Credits: 12 / Clock Hours: 330

MID 201 – Antepartum (4 credits / 60 clock hours)

Programs: Diploma, Associate Degree

This course teaches the student to provide midwifery care from the initial contact with a client through the onset of labor, with emphasis on a normal pregnancy. Students will explore a wide range of topics including pregnancy signs, complications, and the physiology of and solutions for common pregnancy complaints.

WEL 201 – Alternative Modalities II (1 credit / 15 clock hours)

Programs: Diploma, Associate Degree

This two-part series covers many non-pharmacologic methods of treatment and prevention of specific health issues common to pregnancy, birth, and postpartum; including herbs, homeopathy, essential oils, Chinese medicine, and others. Students learn to grow and make their own herbal preparations. Also included is an introduction to other modalities that may be available in our communities, such as chiropractic, acupuncture, and massage therapy.

DIA 201 – Screening and Diagnostic Testing (2 credits / 30 clock hours)

Programs: Certificate, Diploma, Associate Degree

In this course, students become familiar with the most widely utilized lab and imaging tools used to assist the midwife in determining the health status of the mother and fetus to recognize when intervention is necessary, including all those required by Florida Law.

MID 211 – Midwifery Skills IV (2 credits / 30 clock hours)

Programs: Diploma, Associate Degree

Prerequisite: Midwifery Skills III, matriculating students only

This series covers equipment used by midwives, how to use and care for that equipment, physical exams, gynecological exams and pap smears, venipuncture, injections, fetal monitoring, suturing, newborn exams, and all midwifery skills outlined in The Practical Skills Guide for Midwifery.

CLI 201 – Clinical Lab (3 credits / 180 clock hours)

Programs: Certificate, Diploma, Associate Degree

Matriculating students only

Students work directly with a qualified Preceptor(s) in one or more clinical sites throughout their education and progress through a tiered process of observation, assistance and management in the Antepartum, Intrapartum and Postpartum period. Clinical experiences include participating in prenatal and postpartum appointments, labor and birth, and office procedures for midwifery practices.

Year 2, Semester 2

Credits: 11 | Clock Hours: 300

MID 202 – Intrapartum (4 credits / 60 clock hours)

Programs: Diploma, Associate Degree

Prerequisite: Antepartum

In this course, students learn the mechanisms of normal labor and birth, review the anatomy and physiology of the reproductive structures and fetal anatomy, learn to assess the well-being of mother and child in each stage of labor, learn how to prevent complications, recognize complications when they do arise, understand appropriate use of interventions, and smoothly transfer care when necessary.

PHA 202 – Pharmacology (2 credits / 30 clock hours)

Programs: Certificate, Diploma, Associate Degree

This course presents basic principles of pharmacology and drug therapy for pregnancy, birth and postpartum so that the student midwife can appropriately and safely recommend and administer drugs in his or her practice. Students will explore pharmacodynamics and pharmacokinetics, drug properties, routes of administration, types of drugs, dosage, drug categories, and drug profiles.

MID 212 – Midwifery Skills V (2 credits / 30 clock hours)

Programs: Diploma, Associate Degree

Prerequisite: Midwifery Skills IV, matriculating students only

This series covers equipment used by midwives, how to use and care for that equipment, physical exams, gynecological exams and pap smears, venipuncture, injections, fetal monitoring, suturing, newborn exams, and all midwifery skills outlined in The Practical Skills Guide for Midwifery.

CLI 202 – Clinical Lab (3 credits / 180 clock hours)

Programs: Diploma, Associate Degree

Matriculating students only

Students work directly with a qualified Preceptor(s) in one or more clinical sites throughout their education and progress through a tiered process of observation, assistance and management in the Antepartum, Intrapartum and Postpartum period. Clinical experiences include participating in prenatal and postpartum appointments, labor and birth, and office procedures for midwifery practices.

Year 2, Semester 3

Credits: 11 | Clock Hours: 300

MID 203 – Postpartum (3 credits / 45 clock hours)

Programs: Diploma, Associate Degree

Prerequisite: Intrapartum

In this course, students learn mechanisms of a normal postpartum period from the time following the delivery of the placenta through the final postpartum visit, anatomy and physiology of the involution of the uterus and postpartum recovery, how to assess the physical and emotional well-being of postpartum mother, prevent complications, recognize complications when they do arise, and become prepared to refer for psychologic or gynecologic care when necessary.

PED 203 – Newborn (3 credits / 45 clock hours)

Programs: Diploma, Associate Degree

In this course, the student midwife will learn normal newborn examinations and behavioral assessments, infant anatomy and physiology, and common complications affecting the newborn, with special emphasis on the infant's first hours of life. Topics covered include the newborn physical exam, signs and symptoms of impending problems, routine medications, when and how to transfer care to the NICU, and the 24-48 hour home visit.

MID 213 – Midwifery Skills VI (2 credits / 30 clock hours)

Programs: Diploma, Associate Degree

Prerequisite: Midwifery Skills V, matriculating students only

This series covers equipment used by midwives, how to use and care for that equipment, physical exams, gynecological exams and pap smears, venipuncture, injections, fetal monitoring, suturing, newborn exams, and all midwifery skills outlined in The Practical Skills Guide for Midwifery.

CLI 203 – Clinical Lab (3 credits / 180 clock hours)

Programs: Diploma, Associate Degree

Matriculating students only

Students work directly with a qualified Preceptor(s) in one or more clinical sites throughout their education and progress through a tiered process of observation, assistance and management in the Antepartum, Intrapartum and Postpartum period. Clinical experiences include participating in prenatal and postpartum appointments, labor and birth, and office procedures for midwifery practices.

Year 3, Semester 1

Credits: 10 / Clock Hours: 330

MID 301 – Gynecology and Women's Health (2 credits / 30 clock hours)

Programs: Diploma, Associate Degree

Prerequisite: Reproductive Anatomy and Physiology

With Reproductive Anatomy and Physiology as a foundation, this course is an introduction to the fundamentals of well-woman care. It supplies students with the knowledge and skills to provide care, support, and information to women regarding their overall reproductive health, including understanding the normal life cycle of women, family planning, problems with the female reproductive system and breasts, infertility, and interpretation of lab test results.

MID 311 – Protocol Development (3 credits / 45 clock hours)

Programs: Diploma, Associate Degree

This course provides an opportunity for students to research, write, and receive feedback on all protocols for their midwifery practice. Final protocol documents are required to be evidence-based and in accordance with F.S.467/Rule64B24, with detailed midwifery application.

MID 321 – Collaborative Management (1 credit / 15 clock hours)

Programs: Diploma, Associate Degree

This course reviews the indications for consultation, referral, and collaborative care according to F.S. 467, the Midwifery Practice Act. Students will explore the role of a Licensed Midwife as a member of a healthcare team while honing skills for communicating as a medical professional. Emphasis will be placed on applying risk assessment from 64 B24 Florida Administrative Code during prenatal, intrapartum and postpartum care to determine a site and provider for each client. Students will be prepared to interpret data to identify current and potential health problems and needs, establish a collaboration plan with a physician, and ensure clients' safety and dignity during transport/transfer.

CLI 301 – Clinical Lab (4 credits / 240 clock hours)

Programs: Diploma, Associate Degree

Matriculating students only

Students work directly with a qualified Preceptor(s) in one or more clinical sites throughout their education and progress through a tiered process of observation, assistance and management in the Antepartum, Intrapartum and Postpartum period. Clinical experiences include participating in prenatal and postpartum appointments, labor and birth, and office procedures for midwifery practices.

Year 3, Semester 2

Credits: 9 / Clock Hours: 315

MID 302 – Establishing a Practice (2 credits / 30 clock hours)

Programs: Diploma, Associate Degree

This course is an overview of the professional and legal issues related to establishing and maintaining a practice. Topics covered include incorporation, licensure, hiring and paying employees (and yourself), setting up accounts with labs, billing different types of insurance and Medicaid, preparing for business tax payment, bookkeeping, marketing, fostering relationships with other midwives, maintaining an outstanding reputation, and creating a close-knit birthing community.

MID 312 – Issues in Professional Midwifery (1 credit / 15 clock hours)

Programs: Diploma, Associate Degree

This course introduces the student to the current issues impacting the midwifery profession, with emphasis on the role of the midwife as a change agent in the community and in professional

organizations, and touching on the potential positive impact midwives can have internationally. Topics covered include current trends in midwifery education, midwifery legislation, public education, third-party reimbursement, ethics, consumer advocacy and prevention of medical error.

MID 332 – NARM Exam Prep (1 credit / 15 clock hours)

Programs: Diploma, Associate Degree

This course provides preparation for the NARM exam, which is the official LM/CPM licensing exam, recognized by national standards and Florida state standards.

CUL 302 – Religions and Cultures (1 credit / 15 clock hours)

Programs: Diploma, Associate Degree

In this course, students will study a variety of religions and cultures and their values, practices, rituals, and customs as they relate to childbearing. The course will emphasize the importance of providing midwifery care that is culturally relevant and sensitive. Students will be challenged to recognize their own biases and prejudices and develop a deeper cultural awareness and humility.

CLI 302 – Clinical Lab (4 credits / 240 clock hours)

Programs: Diploma, Associate Degree

Matriculating students only

Students work directly with a qualified Preceptor(s) in one or more clinical sites throughout their education and progress through a tiered process of observation, assistance and management in the Antepartum, Intrapartum and Postpartum period. Clinical experiences include participating in prenatal and postpartum appointments, labor and birth, and office procedures for midwifery practices.

Year 3, Semester 3

Credits: 4 / Clock Hours: 240

CLI 303 – Clinical Lab (4 credits / 240 clock hours)

Programs: Diploma, Associate Degree

Matriculating students only

Students work directly with a qualified Preceptor(s) in one or more clinical sites throughout their education and progress through a tiered process of observation, assistance and management in the Antepartum, Intrapartum and Postpartum period. Clinical experiences include participating in prenatal and postpartum appointments, labor and birth, and office procedures for midwifery practices.

Note: Students who have completed their academic requirements but have not finished their clinical requirements must continue to register for Clinical Lab using course codes CLI401, CLI402, and CLI403 until all clinical requirements have been met.

Year 4 – Clinical Continuation Courses

CLI 401 – Clinical Lab Continuation I (1-4 credits / 60-240 clock hours)

Programs: Diploma, Associate Degree
Matriculating students only

This course is only for students who have completed academic coursework but have not yet fulfilled clinical requirements. Under the supervision of a qualified Preceptor at one or more approved clinical sites, students continue the tiered clinical learning process through observation, assistance, and management in the Antepartum, Intrapartum, and Postpartum periods. Experiences include participating in prenatal and postpartum appointments, labor and birth, and office-based midwifery procedures.

CLI 402 – Clinical Lab Continuation II (4 credits / 240 clock hours)

Programs: Diploma, Associate Degree
Matriculating students only

This course is only for students who have completed academic coursework but have not yet fulfilled clinical requirements. Under the supervision of a qualified Preceptor at one or more approved clinical sites, students continue the tiered clinical learning process through observation, assistance, and management in the Antepartum, Intrapartum, and Postpartum periods. Experiences include participating in prenatal and postpartum appointments, labor and birth, and office-based midwifery procedures.

CLI 403 – Clinical Lab Continuation III (4 credits / 240 clock hours)

Programs: Diploma, Associate Degree
Matriculating students only

This course is only for students who have completed academic coursework but have not yet fulfilled clinical requirements. Under the supervision of a qualified Preceptor at one or more approved clinical sites, students continue the tiered clinical learning process through observation, assistance, and management in the Antepartum, Intrapartum, and Postpartum periods. Experiences include participating in prenatal and postpartum appointments, labor and birth, and office-based midwifery procedures.

Bachelor of Science in Midwifery (BSM) – Upper Division Courses

COM 401 – Advanced Communication for Health Professionals (3 credits / 45 clock hours)

Programs: Bachelor of Science in Midwifery
General Education: Communication

This upper-division course advances interpersonal and professional communication skills for healthcare leadership. Topics include advanced conflict resolution, interdisciplinary collaboration, health literacy, motivational interviewing, cross-cultural communication, and presenting to diverse audiences. Students develop written and oral competencies essential for professional practice, advocacy, and education.

STA 402 – Applied Statistics for Healthcare (3 credits / 45 clock hours)

Programs: Bachelor of Science in Midwifery
General Education: Mathematics

This course introduces statistical concepts and applications relevant to healthcare research and practice. Students learn descriptive and inferential statistics, hypothesis testing, data interpretation, and the use of statistical software. Emphasis is placed on understanding research findings, evaluating evidence, and applying statistical reasoning to maternal health outcomes.

PSY 403 – Psychology of Childbearing Families (3 credits / 45 clock hours)

Programs: Bachelor of Science in Midwifery
General Education: Social Science

An exploration of psychological theories and research related to pregnancy, childbirth, and early parenthood. Topics include attachment, perinatal mental health, trauma-informed care, family systems, and psychosocial risk factors. Students examine the intersection of mental health and reproductive care within diverse family structures.

ETH 404 – Ethics and Human Rights in Global Health (3 credits / 45 clock hours)

Programs: Bachelor of Science in Midwifery
General Education: Humanities / Ethics

This course examines ethical frameworks and human rights principles as they apply to maternal and reproductive health globally. Topics include reproductive justice, autonomy, equity, cultural competency, access to care, and ethical decision-making in complex clinical and policy contexts.

CUL 405 – Cultural Anthropology in Maternal Health (3 credits / 45 clock hours)

Programs: Bachelor of Science in Midwifery
General Education: Social Science / Culture

An anthropological study of childbirth practices, beliefs, and rituals across cultures. Students explore how culture shapes reproductive health experiences, healthcare systems, and maternal outcomes. The course emphasizes cultural humility, structural competency, and the impact of historical and social factors on health disparities.

BIO 406 – Biology of Reproduction and Development (3 credits / 45 clock hours)

Programs: Bachelor of Science in Midwifery
General Education: Natural Science

This upper-division course provides an advanced understanding of reproductive biology, including hormonal regulation, gametogenesis, fertilization, embryonic and fetal development, and placental physiology. Students integrate cellular and molecular perspectives with clinical applications in midwifery and maternal health.

WEL 407 – Environmental Health and Community Wellness (3 credits / 45 clock hours)

Programs: Bachelor of Science in Midwifery
General Education: Natural Science

This course examines the relationship between environmental factors and maternal-child health outcomes. Topics include toxicology, water and air quality, climate change, social determinants of health, and community-based interventions. Students learn to assess environmental risks and promote wellness at individual and population levels.

SOC 408 – Sociology of Birth and Reproductive Health (3 credits / 45 clock hours)

Programs: Bachelor of Science in Midwifery
General Education: Social Science

A sociological analysis of childbirth and reproductive health in contemporary society. Topics include medicalization, power dynamics in healthcare, maternal mortality and morbidity, birth justice movements, institutional racism, and the role of social structures in shaping birth experiences and outcomes.

HIS 409 – History and Philosophy of Midwifery (3 credits / 45 clock hours)

Programs: Bachelor of Science in Midwifery
General Education: Humanities / History

This course traces the historical evolution of midwifery from ancient traditions to contemporary practice. Students examine philosophical foundations of the Midwives Model of Care™, comparative healthcare systems, legislative history, professionalization, and the ongoing struggle for legitimacy and integration within modern healthcare.

RES 410 – Research Methods and Evidence-Based Practice (3 credits / 45 clock hours)

Programs: Bachelor of Science in Midwifery
General Education: Interdisciplinary / Writing

An introduction to research design, methodology, and evidence-based practice in maternal health. Students learn to critically appraise literature, design research questions, understand qualitative and quantitative methods, and apply evidence to clinical decision-making. The course emphasizes academic writing, ethical research conduct, and translating research into practice.

MID 411 – Capstone Seminar (3 credits / 45 clock hours)

Programs: Bachelor of Science in Midwifery (*Optional*)

This culminating experience allows students to synthesize their learning through scholarly inquiry, portfolio development, or a capstone project. Students demonstrate mastery of program competencies through research, reflection, and professional presentation. May be taken in lieu of one of the above courses with advisor approval.

