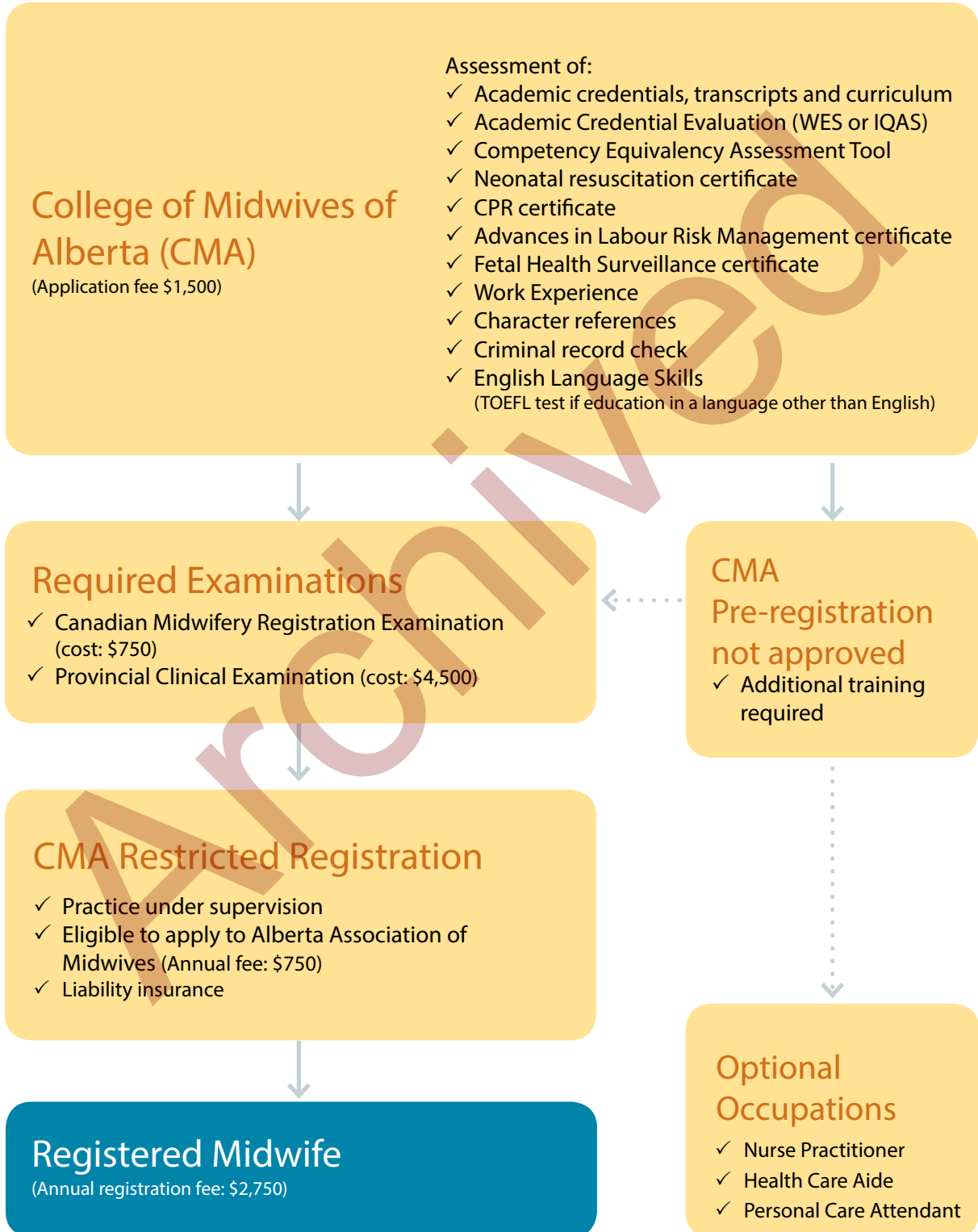


# Midwife

## Registration Process



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#### Description of Occupation

Midwives are primary health care professionals who provide care for women and babies throughout pregnancy, birth, and a six (6) week period after birth.

They educate women about pregnancy, labour, delivery and the postpartum period. They assess the physical and psychological well-being of their clients, and refer them to other health care professionals if they identify any abnormalities. Midwives also assist in birthing babies and provide emotional support to women and their families before, during and after labour. They examine and care for newborn infants and follow up with clients after birth to check in on their health and their babies' health.

#### Obtaining Registration in Alberta

To become a Midwife in Alberta, you must first apply for registration with the College of Midwives of Alberta (CMA). The Canadian Midwifery Regulators Consortium has information and help for those looking for information about becoming a Midwife in Canada. You should review this information and complete the Self-Assessment Readiness Tool prior to completing the CMA application process. In order to apply for registration, you must complete the following steps:

- Have your academic credentials assessed
- Complete the Competency Equivalency Assessment Tool
- Provide proof of your work experience
- Pay the required fee to the College of Midwives of Alberta
- Complete the required National and Provincial examinations

Once you have completed all the necessary steps, you may be eligible to apply for restricted registration. It will allow you to practice under the supervision of a registered Midwife.

With your restricted registration, you are eligible to apply for membership with the Alberta Association of Midwives (AAM). To do so, you will need to submit an Application Form and the required fees. You may also get liability insurance through the AAM, which you will need in order to practice as a Registered Midwife.

Contact information and other resources are at the end of this document.

#### Residency Requirement

You may apply for registration from outside of Canada, but you must be a Canadian citizen or eligible to work in Canada by the time your registration is complete.

#### Requirements

Internationally educated Midwives must meet the following requirements:

##### 1. Academic Credentials

You must have appropriate university education to proceed with the registration process. To verify your academic credentials, you must complete an evaluation through an independent Education Evaluation Service. World Evaluation Services (WES) or International Qualifications Assessment Service (IQAS) are accepted.

The evaluation service must send your academic credential assessment directly to the CMA. You will also be required to submit the following:

- CMA Competency Equivalency Assessment Tool
- A curriculum of the program you attended, for the years you attended
- Official transcripts from your Midwifery program.

You must also submit documentation that shows you have:

- Current and valid certification in neonatal resuscitation (must be renewed every year)
- Valid certification in adult and infant cardiopulmonary resuscitation (CPR) (must be renewed every two (2) years)
- Valid certification in a course that teaches emergency skills in obstetrics, such as the Emergency Skills Workshop, Advanced Life Support in Obstetrics (ALSO) or Advances in Labour Risk Management (ALARM) (must be renewed every two (2) years)
- A valid certificate of completion in Fetal Health Surveillance: Perinatal Services British Columbia (must be renewed every 2 years)

## **2. Work Experience**

You must provide a detailed portfolio that proves you have attended at least 60 births in the past five (5) years. Of those:

- You must have been a principal midwife in at least 40 of those births.
  - i. 10 births must have been in an out-of-hospital setting.
  - ii. 10 births must have been in a hospital setting (attendance at a hospital birth is acceptable).
  - iii. 30 births must have included continuity of care (care throughout pregnancy, during birth and for a six (6) week period after birth).
- You must have attended at least 10 births in the past two (2) years.
  - i. 10 births must have been as principal midwife.
  - ii. 10 births must have included continuity of care.

Note:

One (1) birth may be counted toward meeting more than one (1) requirement. For instance, if you acted as principal midwife and provided continuity of care in one (1) birth, you may count that toward your requirements as a principal midwife and a birth in which you provided continuity of care.

## **3. Good Character and Reputation**

You must request two (2) character and professional references be sent directly to the CMA. You will also be required to submit a criminal record check. If are coming from outside of Canada and you have completed one for the purposes of immigration, a copy of that report is acceptable.

To remain registered you must maintain good standing with the College. To remain in good standing, you must:

- Pay annual membership fees on time;  
AND
- Not violate any regulation such as the *Standards of Competency and Practice, Professional Codes of Conduct*, and so forth, for the Province of Alberta.

#### 4. English Language

If you were educated in a language other than English, you will have to take the Test of English as a Foreign Language (TOEFL) and submit the results to the CMA with your application. The minimum TOEFL score accepted by the CMA is 550.

#### 5. Examinations

You will need to successfully complete the following two (2) examinations in order to complete the registration process:

- The Canadian Midwifery Registration Examination—a written examination designed to assess applicants for midwifery registration to ensure that they meet entry-level competency standards set out in the Canadian Competencies for Midwives. The exam is offered twice a year, in May and October.
- Objective Structured Clinical Examination – a practical examination which will be scheduled to align with the CMRE.

#### Payment

Assessment of Application for Registration (payable to the College of Midwives of Alberta)	\$1,500
Annual Registration Fee	\$2,750
Canadian Midwifery Registration Examination	\$750
Provincial Clinical Examination	\$4,500
<b>AAM Fees</b> (not pro-rated)	
Full Member Fees (April 1 – March 31)	\$750
Inactive Member Fees (April 1 – March 31)	\$350
*Fees are subject to change. See association for most up-to-date fees.	

#### Average Earnings

Most Midwives in Alberta are self-employed as professional health practitioners. They may also form partnerships in health clinics with other allied health care practitioners. Income is related to the number of patients that a Midwife treats, and it may take some time to find clients and obtain referrals.

Because no Midwives in Alberta work for a company, there is very little wage data available.

## Employment Options

You can also consider working in Alberta in related occupations such as Nurse Practitioner, Health Care Aide or Personal Care Attendant.

For more information about additional employment options, go to the following website:

[Alberta Learning Information Service \(ALIS\) Occupational Profiles — Midwife](#)  
(for information on all occupations see [www.alis.alberta.ca/occinfo](http://www.alis.alberta.ca/occinfo)).

## Contact Information

College of Midwives of Alberta  
215, 1935 - 32 Ave NE,  
Calgary Alberta, T2E 7C8  
Telephone: 403-474-3999  
Fax: 403-474-3990  
Email: [info.cma@shaw.ca](mailto:info.cma@shaw.ca)  
Website: [www.college-midwives-ab.ca](http://www.college-midwives-ab.ca)

Alberta Association of Midwives  
#310, 5 Richard Way SW  
Calgary, Alberta T3E 7M8  
Phone: 403-450-7858  
Fax: 403-451-9906  
Email: [info@abmidwives.ca](mailto:info@abmidwives.ca)  
Website: [www.abmidwives.ca/](http://www.abmidwives.ca/)

## Resources

This information is an overview of the registration process. For the most current information on Midwife registration visit the College of Midwives website at [www.college-midwives-ab.ca](http://www.college-midwives-ab.ca).

Application Forms and Information:

[CMA Application Process](#)  
[Self-Assessment Readiness Tool](#)  
[CMA Competency Tool](#)  
[CMA Application for Assessment of Eligibility](#)  
[Midwifery Regulation](#)  
[Alberta Health Information About Midwifery Services in Alberta](#)

Education:

[International Qualifications Assessment Service \(IQAS\)](#)  
[World Evaluation Services \(WES\)](#)  
[Advanced Life Support in Obstetrics \(ALSO\) Course Information](#)  
[Advances in Labour and Risk Management \(ALARM\)](#)  
[Fetal Health Surveillance – Perinatal Services BC](#)

English:

[Test of English as a Foreign Language \(TOEFL\)](#)

Examinations:

[Canadian Midwifery Registration Examination](#)