



State of Louisiana
Louisiana Department of Health
Office of Public Health

LOUISIANA DOULA REGISTRY BOARD

January 11, 2024 from 11:00 am to 1:00 pm

Location:
Benson Tower, Room 1800
1450 Poydras Avenue
New Orleans, LA 70112

Meeting link for members of the public:

<https://us06web.zoom.us/j/82211236748?pwd=oU2Sg1XOBqaWPXo5Xqs9zvvr38jqvI.1>

Phone: 602 333 0032 Conference code: 453592

Minutes

- I. Roll Call**
Meeting called to order by Yoruba Baltrip-Coleman, facilitating on behalf of Chair, Dawn Collins, at 11:17 a.m.
- II. Introductions**
Six members were in attendance; a quorum was not present. While there was no quorum, members held an informational session largely to discuss the registry application process. Members in attendance include Nanette McCann, Cassandra Jessi-Johnson, Karelle Percy, Angelica Rideaux, Victoria Williams, and Meshawn Siddiq. Members not in attendance included Amanda Devereux, Tiffany Wyatt, Dawn Collins, Shanika Valcour-LeDuff, Zana Washington, Gia Hamilton (virtual). Guests in attendance included Jason Stelzer, Steven Patorno, John Rogillio, and David McCay. Yoruba Baltrip-Coleman, Ayesha Umrigar, and Shane Bates served as administrative staff for the meeting.
- III. Public Comment**
Ms. Baltrip-Coleman requested comments from the public. There was no public comment.
- IV. Approval of Minutes**
Doula Registry Board members could not approve minutes from November 14, 2023 due to absence of a quorum.
- V. New Business**
 - a. Election of Board Chair**
The Board did not hold chair elections, since there was no quorum.
 - b. Determination/Voting Approval of Calendar Year 2024 Board Meeting Dates**
Meeting dates were not determined as there was not a quorum. As a side comment, there was a question from the Board membership on what was the number of members required to be present to achieve a quorum. Mr. Bates advised the members that a

quorum is based on the total number of positions defined in statute, whether filled or not. Eight members are required to be present for the Doula Registry Board to meet its quorum requirement. When Act 393 of 2023 rule goes into effect for the Louisiana Department of Health (LDH), Bureau of Family Health will notify if the Board qualifies to meet remotely in accordance with Act 393. If the Board is determined to be able to meet remotely, then virtual members could count towards quorum.

Members discussed recruitment.

c. Board Discussion of the Doula Registry Application (Components and Process)/Information Provided by Tyler Technologies.

Dr. Gillispie-Bell, Bureau of Family Health (BFH) Medical Director for the LaPQC and Pregnancy Associated Mortality Review (PAMR) and an Ochsner Health obstetrician-gynecologist, prepared a framework with components for the Doula Registry Board members to consider for inclusion in the registry application.

Mr. Stelzer, Tyler Technologies, briefly recapped their presentation from the April 5, 2023 meeting. To provide the members with an example of an active registry, Mr. Stelzer demonstrated the Louisiana Commission for the Deaf Statewide Interpreter Registry. During the demonstration, he discussed the “pros and cons” of a public-facing registry versus a closed registry platform.

Members discussed the intent to proceed with a closed registry platform, not to financially or economically affect doulas electing not to register. Discussion also included inclusion of a doula’s email address, citizenship status, and the use of personal identifiers for doula registrants such as National Provider Identifier (NPI), Employer Identification Number (EIN) or Social Security Number. Mr. Bates pointed out that MCOs may require a SSN for repayment and eligibility purposes. An NPI is needed to make claims and in order to obtain, doula must provide their SSN. BFH staff will contact LDH Medicaid staff to see if a Medicaid Managed Care Organization (MCO) will require certain identifiers for reimbursement.

With regard to qualification information, the Doula Registry Board members discussed making “affiliation” an optional response. In addition, members considered the inclusion of parish identification for data collection purposes.

Mr. Stelzer clarified that doulas should demonstrate possession of documentation when submitting proof of education for the registry application. There was also discussion on the training pathway qualifications section, an auto-assigned unique identifying number for registered doulas, and verification/proof of a doula’s “good standing” status.

Mr. Bates suggested requiring training certificates be uploaded as proof of date of completion.

Mr. McCay questioned Tyler Technologies on the ability to grant an insurer access to the registry for verification purposes. At the next Doula Registry Board meeting, members will continue to discuss the registry application and its components. Points of discussion will include conducting a background check versus a statement of attestation, references/recommendations, and continuing education (CE) program applications.

VI. Public Comment

There were no public comments.

VII. Other Business - Discussion on Appointment of Non-voting Advisory/Members/Determination of Appointment Process

Six non-voting advisory seats are vacant. Ms. Williams sought clarification on the selection process. Mr. Bates advised advisory members are to be filled by a process determined by the

Doula Registry Board members. Members discussed and planned to share names of potential advisory members at the next meeting.

VIII. Adjournment

The meeting adjourned at 12:48 p.m.

Note: The order of the agenda may not be followed exactly, to accommodate presenter schedules.

Presenters, members, and guests may submit requests for accessibility and accommodations prior to a scheduled meeting. Please submit a request to at least 2 weeks prior to the meeting with details of the required accommodations.

In lieu of verbal public comment, individuals may submit a prepared statement in accordance with Senate Rule 13.79. Statements should be emailed to DoulaRegistryBoard@la.gov and must be received at least 24 hours prior to the meeting to be included in the record for the meeting.

DRAFT