Dora NEWSLETTER

Department of Regulatory Agencies

Division of Registrations

October 2010

OFFICE OF MIDWIFERY REGISTRATION

Bill Ritter, Jr.
Governor
Barbara J. Kelley
Executive Director
Cindy Klyn
Program Director

Contact us:

Office of Midwifery Registration
1560 Broadway, Suite 1350
Denver, Colorado 80202
http://www.dora.state.co.us/midwives

For more information contact:
Cindy Klyn
Program Director
Tel.: 303.894.7898
Email:
cindy.klyn@dora.state.co.us

You may also contact:
Moses Choi
Administrative Assistant
Tel.: 303.894.7429
Email: moses.choi@dora.state.co.us

Inside This Issue… On Page …

Last Year's Statistics	2
Wall Certificates	3
Disciplinary Actions	4

Consumer Protection

Consumer protection is our mission

RULEMAKING

The Office of Midwifery Registration went through rulemaking this year. Rule 15, the director's review of initial decisions, is in the process of being repealed. Notices of rulemaking along with the proposed changes are posted on the website during the rulemaking process at www.dora.state.co.us/midwives. The repealed rule will be effective December 2010 and will be posted on the website. Please visit the website and review the changes.

NEW SECTION DIRECTOR

Mark E. Merrill has been appointed as Director of the Health Services Section replacing Richard Morales. Richard has been appointed as Director of the Healthcare Section. For the previous four years, Mark was the Program Director for the State Board of Nursing. Mark has held management positions for over 20 years within the banking and finance industries, computer software training and development, and the healthcare industry.

NEWLY REGISTERED MIDWIVES

We had eleven new midwives register since the 2009 newsletter was issued: Linda Arnold, Jennifer Barr, Marlene Bergman, Lisa Buxman, Regina Gerboth, Donna Holmes, Joanna Howard, Sharon McDougal, Caitlin O'Connor, Kathryn Raynes, and Nedra Wilson. Congratulations and welcome to the practice!

SELF REPORT

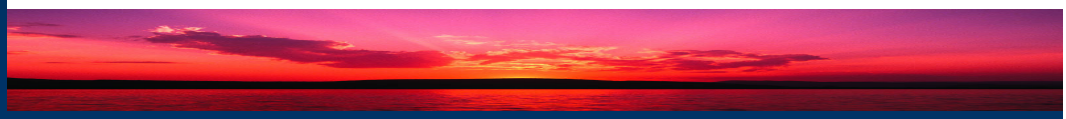
When you receive a felony conviction or pled guilty or nolo contendere to a felony the information needs to be reported to this office. Include a copy of the court documents along with your registration information.

If your midwifery registration is disciplined in another state, you need to self-report to this office. Include a copy of the disciplinary document along with your registration information in Colorado.

All documents should be sent to: Midwifery Registration, 1560 Broadway, Suite 1350, Denver, CO 80202.

2011 SUNSET

Colorado's Midwives Practice Act is under Sunset review this coming year in the legislature. The Sunset process is an opportunity to look critically at the statutes – whether regulation by the Department of Regulatory Agencies is necessary to protect the public health, safety and welfare. In addition, the operation of the agency is reviewed to ensure consistency, efficiency and effectiveness; and evaluate if administrative and statutory changes are necessary to improve the regulation of its practice. We encourage you to thoroughly review the Midwives Practice Act and take this opportunity to address areas that need to be changed.



PROOF OF LAWFUL PRESENCE

Effective January 1, 2007, all persons requesting original registration, renewal of an active registration or reinstatement of a lapsed registration must verify lawful presence in the United States based on the passage of House Bill 06S-1009. This bill applies to all applicants and registrants in the Division of Registrations, with the exception of apprentices, interns, and businesses.

Registrations will not be issued or renewed without completing the Affidavit of Eligibility form.

The good news is that you can complete this affidavit online when you renew using Registrations Online Services!

You must possess at least one secure and verifiable document and include information about that document on the Affidavit itself (or provide the information during online renewal). The list of secure and verifiable documents is available to you when you renew online.

More information regarding this law is available on our website at

http://www.dora.state.co.us/registrations/Affidavit.htm

LAST YEAR'S STATISTICS

The results of the 2009 statistical survey are as follows:

The number of women to whom midwifery care was provided: 936
The number of women receiving only midwifery care: 639
The number of deliveries performed: 637
The number of Apgar scores of infants delivered by the reporting midwife in the following groupings:

One Minute 0–3: 3	Five Minutes 0–3: 0
One Minute 3–6: 53	Five Minutes 3–6: 3
One Minute 7–10: 549	Five Minutes 7–10: 615

The number of Apgar scores of infants delivered in the hospital after transfer in the following groupings:

One Minute 0–3: 5	Five Minutes 0–3: 2
One Minute 3–6: 11	Five Minutes 3–6: 3
One Minute 7–10: 97	Five Minutes 7–10: 93

The number of prenatal transfers: 70
The number of transfers during labor and/or delivery: 90
The number of transferred mothers immediately following birth within first 24 hours: 10
The number of transferred infants immediately following birth within first 24 hours: 13
The number of perinatal deaths while under the reporting midwife's care in the following groups:

Prenatal fetal deaths occurring prior to the onset of labor: 1
Intrapartum fetal deaths occurring after the onset of labor but before birth: 1
Postpartum infant deaths occurring after birth and prior to the 28th day of life: 1

The number of perinatal deaths in the hospital after transfer in the following groups:

Prenatal fetal deaths occurring prior to the onset of labor: 1
Intrapartum fetal deaths occurring after the onset of labor but before birth: 2
Postpartum infant deaths occurring after birth and prior to the 28th day of life: 3

The number of maternal deaths: 0
The number of VBAC women to whom midwifery care was provided: 51
The number of VBAC women who delivered at home: 40
The number of VBAC women transferred during labor and/or delivery: 6
The number of VBAC women who birthed vaginally in hospital: 2
The number of uterine ruptures occurring in VBAC women planning a homebirth: 0

This is a decrease in total numbers, as the 2008 statistics showed 1027 women receiving midwifery care, 767 receiving only midwifery care, and 711 midwife deliveries.

RENEW YOUR REGISTRATION ON TIME!

Midwife Registrations are set to Lapse on November 30, 2010

You may renew your registration online using Registrations Online Services. Renewals are generally made available 6 to 8 weeks prior to the registration expiration date and there is a 60-day grace period after the deadline. So that means you typically have a timeframe of 16 weeks within which to renew your registration!

Any registration not renewed prior to the end of the grace period will be considered lapsed. Once a registration is in lapsed status, a reinstatement application must be completed and returned to our office with the appropriate fee listed on the form.

If you do not renew your registration prior to the end of the grace period and continue to practice, you will be practicing on a lapsed registration and may be subject to disciplinary action. The Division sees a number of situations every year of individuals who have failed to renew their registration on time and practiced without a registration. The reasons that are offered boil down to some common themes: I forgot; I thought I renewed but I guess I didn't; I moved and I forgot to notify the Division so I never got the renewal notice; I thought that my assistant/secretary/spouse/boyfriend, et cetera, handled it; it's the Division's fault because I *did* renew my registration…or I *thought* I renewed my registration. The result is that depending on how long it takes for the individual to "remember" to renew, the Division often takes disciplinary action against the individual because it is against the law to practice without an active registration.

So, here's where we need your help. And the steps are just 1-2-3 easy!

1. Go to the Division of Registrations website at www.dora.state.co.us/registrations and click on Registrations Online Services to renew your registration.
2. Note the expiration date in your calendar to remind yourself of when it is time to renew your registration the next time.
3. Make sure that the address listed on your record is accurate. If it is not, then update your address with the Division. Remember to update your address anytime that you move so that you do not miss out on any important notices from the Division.

Remember, it is each registrant's responsibility to renew his or her registration on time. With our online system, you can handle all of this yourself, any time, day or night.

HAVE YOU CHANGED YOUR MAILING OR EMAIL ADDRESS LATELY?

It is imperative that you keep your contact information updated with the Division. The Division mails renewal notices and other information to you at the last address furnished to us. Failure to receive a renewal notice does not relieve you of your obligation to timely renew.

Once you have logged into Registrations Online Services, check your mailing address and update it if it is not correct. If you received your renewal notice due to a forwarding order it is important that you change your address on file with us, since we cannot change the information based on the forwarding order.

You should also add or update your email address. The Division wants to keep you abreast of legislation, events and other information that impact your profession. We have recently implemented "eUpdates" and look forward to providing more of these in the future.

WALL CERTIFICATES

For those of you that may be interested, the Division of Registrations is pleased to announce that it has outsourced the production of wall certificates to Wall Certificate Service (WCS) a division of Professional Credential Services, Inc. (PCS). The outsourcing of the certificates provides enhancements to the certificates that both new and existing registrants will find beneficial. Specifically, the certificate provided by WCS is a larger, professionally designed, better quality certificate than what the Division was able to provide. For more information regarding wall certificates, which license types are eligible, and how to obtain one, please visit our website at http://www.dora.state.co.us/registrations/wallcert.html. You will be able to order and pay the fee online. The fee for U.S. residents is $25 and for international residents there is an additional international shipping fee.

DISCIPLINARY ACTIONS AND REGISTRATIONS ONLINE DOCUMENTS

If you would like to view an action you may use the **Registrations Online Documents (ROD).** ROD is a website that makes certain scanned documents related to actions taken on registrants available to the public via the internet. The document may be found on ROD if a registrant had been disciplined or if the division has taken some other non-disciplinary action against the registrant that restricts or limits the individual's registration.

The following documents are available via ROD:

- All Stipulations, Final Agency Orders, and Suspensions that were in effect in February 2000 plus any that became effective since that date. Child support suspensions are not available online but may be obtained by contacting the appropriate board/program.
- Any document Revoking or agreeing to a Voluntary Relinquishment/Surrender of registration, Cease and Desist Orders and Letters of Admonition from January 1, 1999 to the present.
- All Injunctions.

Click here for more information about the types of documents provided by this online system and definitions of terms used within the disciplinary documents.

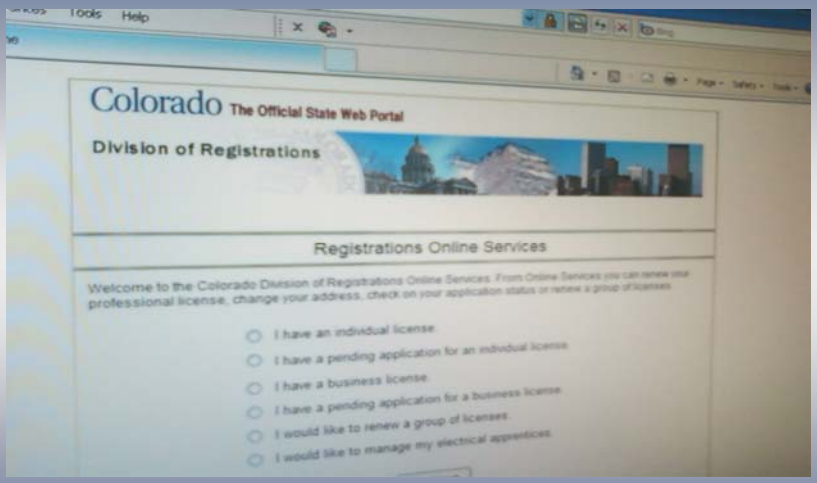
If you are interested in viewing these documents, please visit www.dora.state.co.us/registrations/ROD.htm.

To view disciplinary documents dating from January 1, 1999 to the present, please visit Registrations Online Documents (ROD) at www.dora.state.co.us/doraimages

COMPLAINTS AND DISCIPLINE

Between August 2009 and July 2010, eight complaints were filed against direct entry midwives in Colorado. The allegations include practicing without a registration, failure to make entries in patient's record, falsified entries in patient's records, failure to transport in a timely manner, and violation of stipulation terms. In the period from August 2009 through July 2010, five complaints were dismissed. Three complaints are still open.

REGISTRATIONS ONLINE SERVICES



Registrations Online Services makes it easier for all registered professionals to renew and update their contact information after a simple registration process. Check it out at www.dora.state.co.us/registrations and then click on Online Registrations Services. For detailed instructions on how to use the online system go to www.dora.state.co.us/registrations/FAQs.htm.