



### **Doula Code of Ethics:**

A doula should:

- Make informed decisions in the performance of professional duties that adhere to all relevant statutes, rules, codes of ethics, and scope of practice standards, as defined by the state of Arizona.
- Maintain the confidentiality of information acquired through professional practice that is non-public, privileged or confidential. Please reference the [HIPAA Privacy Rule](#).
- Be aware, especially with the growth of communication technology, of the challenges that may arise in relation to the maintenance of professional boundaries, professional competence, informed consent, confidentiality, record keeping, and other ethical considerations.
- Serve the public, clients, colleagues, and the profession with honesty, respect, impartiality, and accountability.
- Provide high-quality, safe care in a competent manner.
- Treat each client in a caring and respectful manner, mindful of individual differences, as well as cultural and ethnic diversity.
- Advocate for your client's decisions, as indicated with the birth plan, prenatal conversations, and intrapartum discussions, by encouraging the client to speak candidly with health care providers directly and maintaining a supportive role throughout the pregnancy.
- Maintain the highest standards of professional conduct and professional integrity.
- Create fees that are impartial, just, appropriate, and correspond to the services provided. There should be clear policies on refunds and on the terms of payment.
- Continually improve professional knowledge, competencies, skills, and awareness of relevant new developments through continued education, networking, training, and work experiences.
- Know when it is best to refer your client to a more appropriate resource, when it is clear your client's needs outstrip the scope of your training.

### **Code of Ethics violations include the following unprofessional acts:**

- Intentionally betraying a professional confidence or intentional violation of a privileged communication except as required by law.
- Using controlled substances as defined in A.R.S. § 36-2501, narcotic drugs, dangerous drugs or marijuana as defined in A.R.S. § 13-3401 or hypnotic drugs, derivatives or any compounds, mixtures or preparations that may be used for producing hypnotic effects or the use of alcohol to the extent that it affects the ability of the certificate holder to practice his profession.
- Using drugs for other than accepted therapeutic purposes.
- Committing gross malpractice.

- Procuring or attempting to procure a certificate or license by fraud or misrepresentation.
- Offering, undertaking or agreeing to correct, cure or treat a condition, disease, injury, ailment, or infirmity by a secret means, method, device, or instrumentality.
- Refusing to divulge to the Arizona Department of Health Services (Department), on reasonable notice and demand, the means, method, device or instrumentality used in the treatment of a condition, disease, injury, ailment or infirmity. This does not apply to communication between a doula or permit holder and a patient with reference to a disease, injury, ailment or infirmity, or as to any knowledge obtained by personal examination of the patient.
- Knowingly making any false or fraudulent statement, written or oral, in connection with the doula practice.
- Having a certificate or license refused, revoked, or suspended by any other state, territory, district or country for reasons that relate to the person's ability to safely and skillfully engage in doula practices or to any act of unprofessional conduct.
- Engaging in any conduct or practice that does or would constitute a danger to the health of the patient or the public.
- Obtaining a fee by fraud or misrepresentation or willfully or intentionally filing a fraudulent claim with a third party for services rendered or to be rendered to a patient.
- Employing uncertified persons to perform or aiding and abetting uncertified persons in the performance of work that can be done legally only by certified persons.
- Violating or attempting to violate, directly or indirectly, or assisting or abetting the violation of or conspiring to violate this code adopted by the Department.

By signing this agreement, I \_\_\_\_\_ agree to

(Applicant's printed name as it appears on ID document)

abide by the Arizona Department of Health Services' Doula Code of Ethics.

Signature: \_\_\_\_\_ Date: \_\_\_\_\_

(MM/DD/YYYY)