



CPMs are Licensed in CO

Summer 2023 Community Learning
Series



Welcome to the Direct-Entry Midwifery Homepage

The Colorado Office of Direct-Entry Midwifery Registration (Office) regulates individual registered direct-entry midwives in the State of Colorado. The Office's mission is to maintain the profession's integrity and protect its consumers. The Office works in conjunction with the [North American Registry of Midwives \(NARM\)](#) and the [Colorado Midwives Association \(CMA\)](#).

Office activities include licensing midwives, investigating complaints, and enforcing disciplinary actions against those who violate the Direct-Entry Midwives Practice Act and the Director's Rules and Regulations.



Apply for New License



Search for License



File a Complaint



Licensing Services



Laws, Rules and Policies



News Items



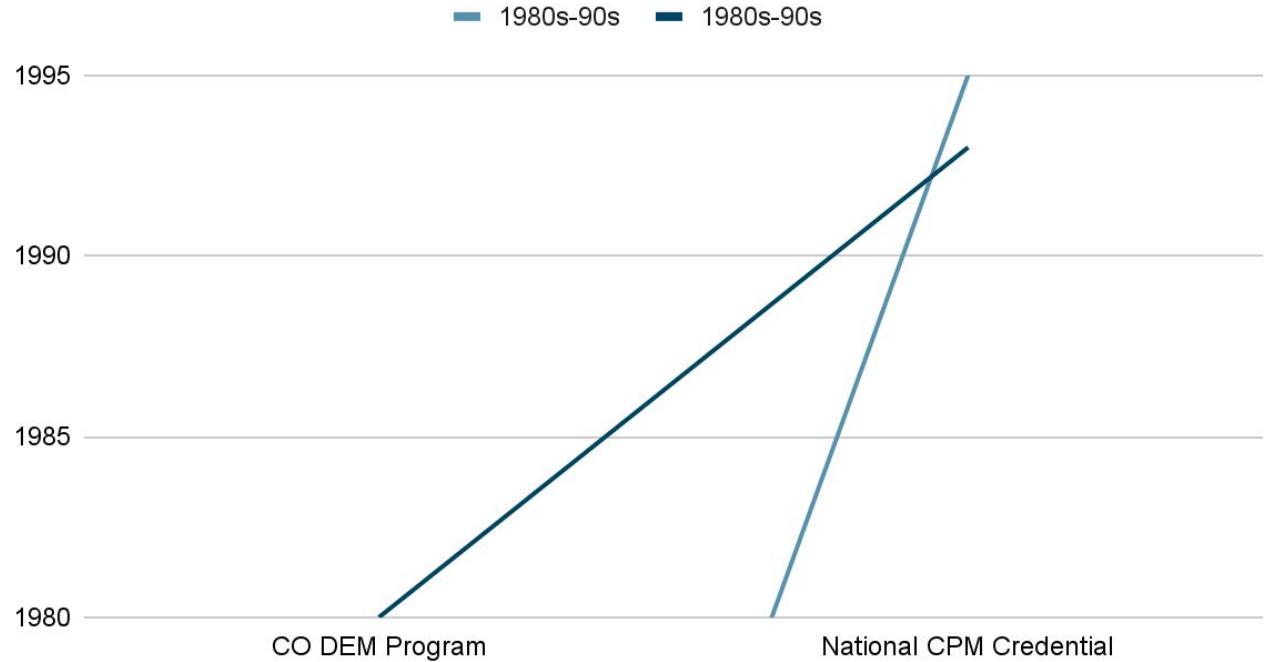
The Colorado Board of Medical Examiners Issued licenses to midwife starting around

The resurgence of midwifery in CO

- 1977 - a licensing program for CNMs is created (CNMs become independent providers in 2000)
- 1983 - a bill to regulate midwifery through CDPHE fails to pass committee
- 1984 - another bill to regulate midwifery fails to pass committee
- 1985 - a bill to license direct-entry midwives under the Board of Nursing fails to pass committee
- 1992 - a bill to exclude “unlicensed midwifery” from the Medical Practice Act fails to pass committee
- 1993 - a bill to regulate midwives at DORA passes and the DEM program begins
- 2023 - licensing program for CMs (mirroring CNMs) is created

DEM/CPM

Evolving together



30 years of DEM regulation in CO

COLORADO DEPARTMENT OF REGULATORY AGENCIES
OFFICE OF POLICY AND RESEARCH

COLORADO MIDWIVES REGISTRATION PROGRAM

2000 SUNSET REVIEW

Recommendation 1 - Continue the Regulation of Direct-Entry Midwives Until July 1, 2006; Continue the Midwife Exemption to the Medical Practice Act Contained in §12-36-106(1)(f)(II), C.R.S.; and Change Legislative References from Registered to Licensed.

"The Colorado direct-entry midwife registration program is in fact a licensing program."

30 years of DEM regulation in CO



1993:

An amendment to the Health Care Availability Act in H.B. 1051 excluded DEMs and went on to say, “nothing in this article shall be construed to indicate or imply that a registrant. . . is a licensed health care provider for the purposes of reimbursement by any health insurer, third party payer, or governmental health care program.”

2011:

That exclusion, along with other language like this in the original law, has been eliminated.

It is no longer law:

~~“nothing in this article shall be construed to indicate or imply that a registrant. . . is a licensed health care provider for the purposes of reimbursement by any health insurer, third party payer, or governmental health care program.”~~

30 years of DEM regulation in CO

Colo. Rev. Stat. § 12-20-102(9) defines a **license** as "a grant of authority issued by the director or a board or commission pursuant to a part or article of this title 12 that authorizes a person to engage in a profession or occupation regulated by that part or article."

Colo. Rev. Stat. § 12-20-102 (11) defines **registration** as "to record the information required by a part or article of this title 12 in the form and manner determined by the regulator that regulates the practice of a profession or occupation pursuant to that part or article."

Colorado's DEM program has never been only a registry.



B

Occupational licensing and American workers

Box 1. What are licenses and certificates?

A license is a credential that a local, state, or federal government requires a worker to hold to practice in a given occupation. Typically, licenses are required by state governments. Some occupations are

A certificate, by contrast, is a credential that is not legally required to work in a field. This credential is often provided by a private entity and

Ryan Nunn, "Occupational licensing and American workers" Brookings Institute.

Since the beginning CO's DEM law required:

- A competency exam + proof of education
- Record keeping
- Payment of fees
- Potential for discipline



30 years of DEM regulation in CO

Title 12 was revised in 2019 and these definitions were simplified:

~~Colo. Rev. Stat. § 12-20-102(9) defines a license as "a grant of authority issued by the director or a board or commission pursuant to a part or article of this title 12 that authorizes a person to engage in a profession or occupation regulated by that part or article."~~

~~Colo. Rev. Stat. § 12-20-102 (11) defines registration as "to record the information required by a part or article of this title 12 in the form and manner determined by the regulator that regulates the practice of a profession or occupation pursuant to that part or article."~~

Colo. Rev. Stat. § 12-1-103(3) "profession", or "occupation" means an activity subject to regulation by a part or article of this title 12.

Title 12
Division of Professions and Occupations
Article 225
Direct Entry Midwives

Why does it matter?



Medicaid Financing of Midwifery Services: A 50-State Analysis

Key Findings at a Glance

50

States +DC

reimburse CNMs in their Medicaid programs.

18

States +DC

reimburse midwives without a nursing degree under Medicaid.

36

States

reimburse CNMs for services beyond traditional maternity care in their Medicaid programs.

31

States

allow CNMs to be identified as a patient's primary care provider in their Medicaid programs.

25

States

include CNMs or midwives in Medicaid payment reform efforts.



NASHP

NATIONAL ACADEMY
FOR STATE HEALTH POLICY

System Values

Market competition



Provider discrimination

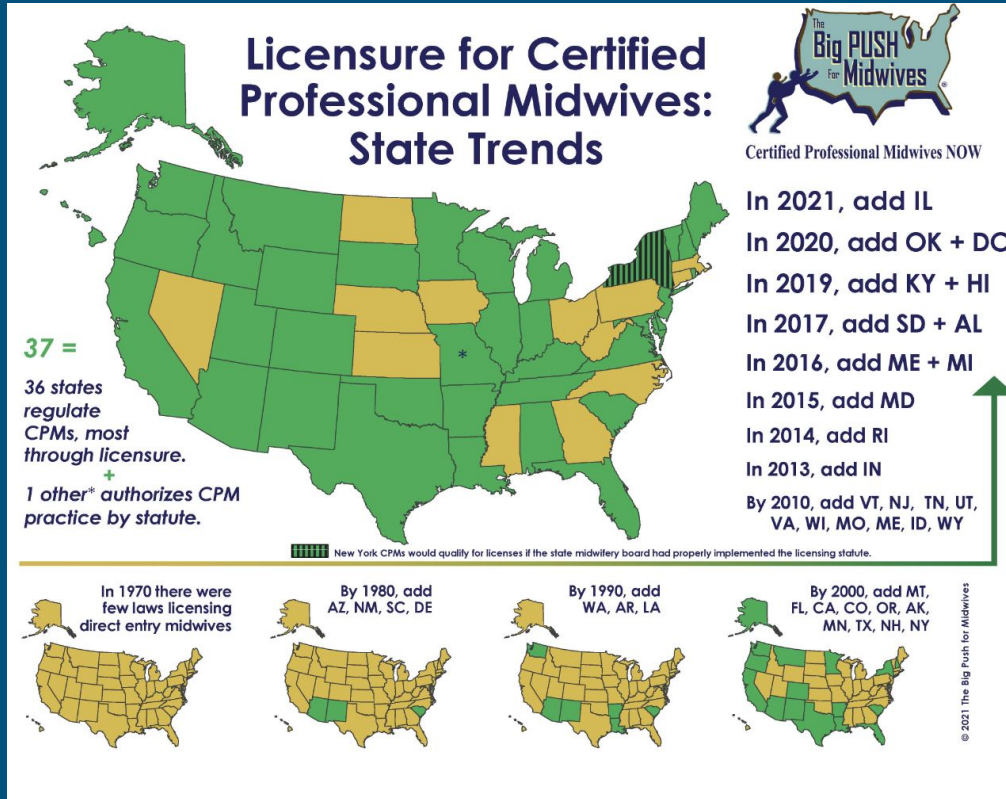


Licensing is the norm in healthcare

There has been an increase in licensing since the middle of the last century, and healthcare occupations "feature licensing at particularly high rates."

Ryan Nunn, "Occupational licensing and American workers" Brookings Institute.

CO is seen nationally as a state with licensed CPMs



37 States and Years of CPM Regulation or Legalization (in Chronological Order)

1	SC	(1976)
2	AZ	(1978)
3	NM	(1978)
4	DE	(1978)
5	NH	(1979)
6	AR	(1983)
7	TX	(1983)
8	LA	(1985)
9	WA	(1991)
10	MT	(1991)
11	NY**	(1992)
12	CO	(1993)
13	CA	(1993)
14	OR	(1993)

Midwifery Integration State Scoring (MISS) System Report Card

Colorado

State Rank: #21

Integration Score: 41/100

41 out of a possible 100

Place of birth

more than 97% hospital

0.5% birth center

1.6% home

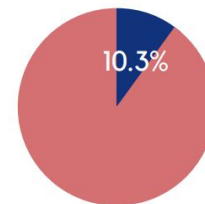
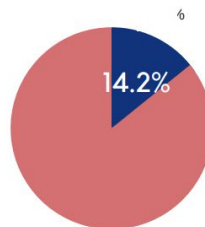
	Certified Professional Midwife	Certified Nurse Midwife	Certified Midwife
Licensed to practice	✓	✓	✗
Covered by Medicaid	✗	✓	✗
Authorized to write prescriptions	✗	✓	✗
Easy access to physician referral	✗	✗	✗
No restrictions to site of practice	✗	✓	✗

CPM includes Direct Entry Midwives where applicable

Births attended by midwives

Colorado

U.S. Average





REPRODUCTIVE HEALTH AND EQUITY

50-State Survey: Direct Entry Midwives

Direct Entry Midwives Across the Nation

<p>Colorado</p>	<p>Must complete an examination evaluated and approved by the [Director of Professions and Occupations] and have completed a training approved by the director, completed practical experience, participated as a birth attendant, and be certified in CPR by the American Heart Association or American Red Cross. Colo. Rev. Stat. § 12-225-104.</p>	<p>Division of Professions and Occupations: Direct Entry Midwifery Registration</p>	<p>Licensed midwives in Colorado can administer Vitamin K by intramuscular injection, Rh immune globulin, postpartum antihemorrhagic drugs, eye prophylaxis, local anesthetics, and prophylaxis for Group B streptococcus infection. Colo. Rev. Stat. § 12-225-107; 4 CCR 84-739-1.</p>
-----------------	--	---	---

Questions & Discussion



Next Up in the Summer 2023 Community Learning Series
Educational Pathways for CPMs in Colorado - July 21, 9-10am