

**Title 16. Professional and Vocational Regulations**  
**Division 13. Medical Board of California**  
**Chapter 3. Affiliated Healing Arts**  
**Article 6. Midwife Assistants**

**1379.01. Licensed Midwife Supervisor.**

A licensed midwife or certified nurse midwife authorizes the midwife assistant under his or her supervision to perform the services referenced in section 2516.5(b) of the code, and shall be responsible for the patient's treatment and care.

**1379.02. Certification in Neonatal Resuscitation.**

Each midwife assistant shall maintain current certification in Neonatal Resuscitation. Certification shall be obtained from the American Academy of Pediatrics.

**1379.03. Certification in Basic Life Support.**

Each midwife assistant shall maintain current certification in Basic Life Support. Certification shall be obtained from the American Heart Association or the American Safety and Health Institute.

**1379.04. Training in Infection Control.**

Each midwife assistant shall receive training in the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention "Guideline for Infection Control in Health Care Personnel" (1998), which is hereby incorporated by reference, and shall demonstrate to the satisfaction of the licensed midwife, certified nurse midwife, or instructor that he or she understands the purposes and techniques of infection control.

**1379.05. Training to Perform Services.**

(a) Minimum Training. In addition to completing the requirements under sections 1379.02, 1379.03, and 1379.04, in order to perform the services of a midwife assistant, the individual shall have completed the minimum training as prescribed herein. Training shall be for the duration required for the midwife assistant to demonstrate to the instructor, licensed midwife, or certified nurse midwife providing the training proficiency in the procedures to be performed as authorized by section 2516.5(b) of the code, where applicable, but shall include no less than:

- (1) Five (5) clock hours of midwifery didactic training.
- (2) Two (2) clock hours of training in administering oxygen by inhalation.
- (3) Ten (10) clock hours of satisfactory demonstration of immediate newborn care.

(b) Additional Training for Specific Services. In order to perform the services of a midwife assistant identified below, an individual shall have completed the additional

training prescribed herein for the service to be provided. Training shall be for the duration required for the midwife assistant to demonstrate to the instructor, licensed midwife, or certified nurse midwife providing the training proficiency in the procedures to be performed as authorized by section 2516.5(b) of the code, where applicable, but shall include no less than:

- (1) Five (5) clock hours of training on the device used for auscultation of fetal heart tones and ten (10) demonstrations of satisfactory placement of the device used for auscultation of fetal heart tones during labor or by simulation.
  - (2) Ten (10) clock hours of training in administering injections and performing skin tests, and satisfactory performance of ten (10) each of intramuscular, subcutaneous, and intradermal injections, and skin tests.
  - (3) Ten (10) clock hours of training in venipuncture and skin puncture for the purpose of withdrawing blood, and satisfactory performance of ten (10) each of venipunctures and skin punctures for the purpose of withdrawing blood.
- (c) Training in (a) and (b) above shall include instruction and demonstration in:
- (1) pertinent anatomy and physiology appropriate to the procedures;
  - (2) choice of equipment;
  - (3) proper technique including sterile technique;
  - (4) hazards and complications;
  - (5) patient care following treatment or test;
  - (6) emergency procedures;
  - (7) California law and regulations for midwife assistants.

#### **1379.06. Administration of Training.**

- (a) Training required in section 1379.05 may be administered in either of these settings:
- (1) Under the supervision of a licensed midwife or certified nurse midwife, who shall ascertain the proficiency of the midwife assistant, or under a "qualified midwife assistant," as defined under subsection (c) of this section, acting under the direction of a licensed midwife or certified nurse midwife who shall be responsible for determining the content of the training and the proficiency of the midwife assistant; or
  - (2) In a secondary or adult education program in a public school authorized by the Department of Education, in a community college program provided for in Part 48 of Division 7 of the Education Code, or a postsecondary institution accredited by an accreditation agency recognized by the United States Department of Education or approved by the Bureau for Private Postsecondary Education under sections 94885 and 94887 of the Education Code and all regulations adopted pursuant to those sections. A licensed midwife or certified nurse midwife shall serve as advisor to the midwife assistant training program. The instructor in a public school setting shall possess a valid teaching credential issued by the Commission on Teacher Credentialing. The instructor in a private postsecondary institution shall meet the requirements of section 94885(a)(5) of the Education Code and all regulations adopted pursuant to that section.
- (b) The licensed midwife or certified nurse midwife, pursuant to subsection (a)(1) or the instructor pursuant to subsection (a)(2) shall certify in writing the place and date such training was administered, the content and duration of the training, and that the midwife

assistant was observed by the licensed midwife, certified nurse midwife, or instructor, to demonstrate competence in the performance of each such task or service, and shall sign and date the certificate. More than one task or service may be certified in a single document; separate certificates shall be made for subsequent training in additional tasks or services.

(c) For purposes of this section only, a “qualified midwife assistant” is a midwife assistant who:

(1) is certified by a midwife assistant certifying organization approved by the Board pursuant to 1379.07; or

(2) is authorized to teach in a midwife assistant training program at a community college; or

(3) is authorized to teach in a midwife assistant training program in a private postsecondary institution accredited by an accreditation agency recognized by the United States Department of Education or approved by the Bureau for Private Postsecondary Education.

### **1379.07. Approved Certifying Organizations.**

(a) An organization that certifies midwife assistants may apply to the Board for approval. This application shall include the following information:

(1) Name and address of the applicant;

(2) Applicant's federal employer identification number (FEIN);

(3) Name, address and telephone number of a contact person for the applicant;

(4) Documentation establishing that the applicant is accredited by the National Commission for Certifying Agencies, or an accrediting organization that is equivalent thereto;

(5) Name, address and telephone number of the organization that validated the applicant's certifying examination;

(6) Information sufficient to establish that the certifying organization meets the standards set forth in subsection (b).

(b) For purposes of section 1379.06(c)(1), an organization that certifies midwife assistants shall be approved if it meets all of the following standards:

(1) Is a non-profit, tax-exempt organization;

(2) Requires all applicants for certification as a midwife assistant to successfully complete a psychometrically valid examination that is secure, is occupationally relevant and tests for the skills and procedures outlined in section 2516.5 of the code;

(3) Requires all applicants for certification as a midwife assistant to have one or more of the following:

(A) Graduation from a midwife assistant training program meeting the requirements under section 1379.06(a)(2);

(B) A minimum of two (2) years of experience, following receipt of the certificate specified in section 1379.06(b) as a practicing midwife assistant within five (5) years immediately preceding the date of examination;

(C) Military training or schooling equivalent to that described in subsections (A) or (B) above;

(D) Employment at the time of certification as an instructor in an accredited midwife assistant program or institution meeting the requirements under section 1379.06(a)(2) for certification of a midwife assistant.

(4) Requires each certificate holder to renew his or her certification at least every five

(5) years and obtain a minimum of 60 hours of continuing education related to the practice of midwife assistants over each five (5)-year period.

#### **1379.08. Report of Changes by Certifying Organization; Review by Board.**

(a) An approved certifying organization shall notify the Board within 30 days thereafter of any changes related to the standards contained in section 1379.07.

(b) The Board shall review each approved certifying organization at least once every five (5) years for compliance with the standards set forth in section 1379.07. The Board may, in its discretion, review any certifying organization that has submitted a notice of changes as required by subsection (a).

#### **1379.09. Permit Processing Times - Approved Certifying Organizations.**

(a) Within 60 working days of receipt of an application pursuant to section 1379.07 for certifying organization approval, the Board shall inform the applicant in writing whether it is complete and accepted for filing or that it is deficient and what specific information or documentation is required to complete the application. An application is considered complete if it is in compliance with the requirements of section 1379.07.

(b) Within 100 calendar days from the date of filing of a completed application, the Board shall inform the applicant in writing of the decision regarding the application for certifying organization approval.