



# Birthwise Midwifery School

## The 2021 Online Application

[Campus Option](#) Classes begin April 14, 2021 *Priority Application deadline: November 15, 2020*

[Community Option](#) Classes begin August 9, 2021 *Priority Application deadline: February 15, 2021*

### **Before starting the online application form please have the following information available:**

- The name, address and dates of ALL educational programs, courses and institutions you have attended.
- Previous experience, number of births attended (if applicable), certification and/or coursework related to perinatal care, if applicable.
- Documentation of registration for or completion of a doula training workshop in .pdf format. *Doula workshops can be taken through Birthwise prior to start of each program.*
- Documentation of registration or completion of CPR training in .pdf format. (CPR card does not need to be current.)
- Name, address, date of birth, first 3 digits of your Social Security Number (SSN) and permanent mailing address.
- The names and contact information of three (3) individuals who will write your letters of reference.
  1. A midwifery or birth-related connection, if possible
  2. A work-related or professional connection
  3. A non-family personal reference
- The name and location of the mentor midwife with whom you currently work or with whom you would like to work, if applicable.
- Address the following short answer questions thoroughly, thoughtfully, and concisely in paragraph form. Please answer each question in 250 words or less. Then, copy and paste your answers into your online application.
  1. Why have you decided to pursue training as a Certified Professional Midwife (CPM) rather than a Certified Nurse Midwife (CNM) or Certified Midwife (CM)? (250 words or less)
  2. How has COVID-19 impacted your interest in becoming a CPM? (250 words or less)
  3. Describe the legal status of CPMs in the state where you plan to practice midwifery. (250 words or less)
  4. Describe any experiences/interests that have contributed to your decision to pursue midwifery training (e.g., birth experiences and/or experience in a related field). How have these experiences shaped your decision to pursue training as a CPM? (250 words or less)
  5. Why do you want to attend Birthwise Midwifery School in particular? (250 words or less)
  6. In Spring 2020 we moved all of our classes from in-person to online in order to maintain the safety of students and staff and comply with the State of Maine's response to the pandemic. In fall 2020 we created a plan to safely welcome back some students on campus for hands on courses, while keeping all other classes online. We remain fully committed to our mission of training skilled and compassionate midwives, and continue to offer the strong program our students and prospective students expect. As we look ahead at 2021, we are planning for the possibility that some of our classes may need to remain online, or that we will temporarily need to move to online only instruction if required by the State of Maine or necessary to protect the safety of students, staff and faculty. Please share any thoughts you have about these unknowns, and the potential of your program being delivered partially online. *Please note: Answers to this question will not factor into your acceptance.* (250 words or less)

- 7. When imagining yourself as a midwife is there anything that makes you apprehensive? (250 words or less)
- 8. What is your familiarity with the idea of social justice? How do you see this concept intersecting with the work of midwives? (250 words or less)
- 9. Birthwise students must gain their Clinical Experience within the United States, and most do so outside the state of Maine. What is your logistic plan for completing the Midwifery Program at Birthwise, especially the preceptorship? (250 words or less)
- 10. Optional: describe any health or learning challenges that may impact your experience at Birthwise. Please share any strategies, modifications, or accommodations that have supported your success despite these challenges. (250 words or less)

**In addition to completing the online application form you will be asked to submit the following:**

1. A formal essay in .pdf format:

*Address the following prompts in a personal essay that highlights your strengths as a prospective midwifery student. Please address all the prompts in a single essay of 1500 words or less. Then, save your essay as a .pdf file and upload it to your online application.*

- Describe your introduction to, and interest in, midwifery and birth. Why are you on this path?
  - What are your personal strengths? How will these strengths help you become an excellent midwife?
  - How does the practice of midwifery reflect your personal philosophy of pregnancy and birth?
  - After school, what do you hope to accomplish as a midwife?
2. Three (3) letters of recommendation and completed reference forms. Reference forms are downloadable at the end of the online application. Your references must submit their information directly to admissions via mail or email.
  3. Official proof of high school completion. Below is a list of acceptable documents.
    - Official high school transcript, with graduation date, sent directly to Birthwise from the school.
    - An official state certificate or transcript received after passing a State-authorized examination that the State recognizes as the equivalent of a high school diploma (GED test, HiSET, TASC, or other State-authorized examination).
    - If homeschooled, a notarized copy of the homeschool transcript, signed by the person who oversaw your education, with graduation date. Include a secondary school completion credential if required by the state in which you were homeschooled.
    - If secondary education was completed in a foreign country, an official high school transcript, an official copy of the "secondary school leaving certificate", or a similar document is required. Documents must be submitted with an English language translation when applicable.
  4. Official college transcripts for ALL higher education courses taken, whether or not credit was earned, sent securely via email or in a sealed envelope directly to Birthwise from each institution.

**UNOFFICIAL TRANSCRIPTS WILL NOT BE ACCEPTED.**

5. Optional: scholarship application and essay in .doc or .pdf format. For more information about Birthwise scholarships [please visit our website HERE](#).
6. \$50 Application fee, paid securely [on our website](#) or by check or by credit card over the phone. Please contact the Birthwise main office during normal business hours to pay over the phone.

**APPLICATIONS WILL NOT BE PROCESSED UNTIL \$50 APPLICATION FEE IS PAID.**

Mail To: Birthwise Midwifery School, 24 S. High St., Bridgton, ME 04009

Email To: [admissions@birthwisemidwifery.edu](mailto:admissions@birthwisemidwifery.edu)

**Please note: Pictures of application materials and reference forms /letters of recommendation will not be accepted, but you may download a .pdf scanner application for your phone or mobile device and convert pictures to an acceptable .pdf format for submission.**