



MICHELLE LUJAN GRISHAM  
Governor

DAVID R. SCRASE, M.D.  
Acting Cabinet Secretary

October 1, 2021

Dear Healthcare Provider:

**This letter is to announce a call for applications for the Birthing Workforce Retention Fund. The Fund provides grants to Certified Nurse-Midwives (CNM) and physicians who provide full scope perinatal care, including childbirth services, and need assistance to cover the cost of malpractice insurance premiums.**

The New Mexico Legislature authorized the creation of the Birthing Workforce Retention Fund in 2008 to assist providers of birthing services with the high cost of malpractice insurance premiums. The Department of Health (NMDOH), as the administrative agency for this Fund, is extending an invitation to providers to apply for an award during the month of October 2021.

To be eligible for an award, the applicant must:

- be a CNM or physician licensed in New Mexico who provides birthing services,
- show that NM Medicaid-insured or indigent patients accounted for at least one-half of the births the provider attended during the previous calendar year (2020),
- have a current malpractice liability insurance policy covering birthing services,
- show intent to continue full scope practice, including birthing services, in New Mexico during the period covered by the award, and
- sign an attestation (included on the application) stating that the award will not be used to purchase tail coverage for an existing malpractice insurance policy.

Application requirements can be found in NMAC 7.30.9, the Birthing Workforce Retention Fund Rule, and on the instructions attached to the application form. The deadline to submit applications for the current fiscal year is October 31, 2021. Applications must be delivered electronically or postmarked and mailed to the Maternal Health Program office (see application for address) by close of business that day.

Application forms can also be downloaded from the Department of Health, Maternal Health Program webpage under the Birthing Workforce Section: [www.nmmidwife.org](http://www.nmmidwife.org)

Please address any questions to Javier Rotunno, MCH Business Operations Manager at (505) 476-8907 or [javier.rotunno@state.nm.us](mailto:javier.rotunno@state.nm.us).

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Abigail Reese".

Abigail Reese, PhD, CNM  
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