

Birth Doula Training Program Comparisons USA

	BABES	Bebo Mia	CAPPA	CBI	DONA	Doula Trainings International	International Doula Institute	ProDoula	Madriella
Total Training Cost (US\$)	775-995	\$1,579.00	\$780.00	\$725.00	\$890.00	\$954.00	\$890.00	\$770.00	\$300.00
Course Work/Workshop	Basic \$775 Advanced \$995	\$1,579.00	\$500.00	\$725.00	\$550.00	\$697.00	\$790.00	\$595.00	\$300.00
Enrolment	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$175.00	\$0.00	\$40.00	\$0.00		\$0.00	\$0.00
Membership	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$75.00	\$0.00	\$100.00	\$157.00		\$75.00	\$50.00
Certification Fee	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$110.00	\$0.00		\$0.00	\$0.00
Required Additional Costs	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$30.00	\$0.00	\$90.00	\$100.00	\$100.00	\$100.00	\$0.00
Ongoing Costs	None	None	\$300 every 3 years	None	\$380 every 3 years	None unless choosing annual membership	\$100 every 3 years		
Info on additional costs	Optional Membership Group		Scope of Practice Intensive review (\$30)		Basics of Breastfeeding (\$35-\$70); Business Webinar (\$20)	Infant/Child CPR certification (approx. \$100)	CPR certification (approx. \$100)	First Aid course (approx. \$100)	
Delivery Method	Hybrid Face to face and online	Online	Face-to-face and Online	Printed Manuals (\$725 + Shipping) and Online (\$680)	Face to Face	Online	Online	Face to Face	Online
Payment Plans	Yes	Yes 3-9 payments	Up to individual trainer	Yes 5 payments \$155 per month	Up to individual trainer		Yes- 2 Payments		Yes - 6 payments (plus a \$25 admin fee)
Info on available discounts	POC Scholarships, Multi-course discounts			Multi-course discounts up to 25%; student discount for subsequent courses of 15%					

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About the Organization									
Founded	2013		1998	1999	1992	2011		2013	
Contact Hours	112	16	18	86	16		16	20	16
Tagline	Quality training for birth professionals	Training. Mentorship. Community.	education. support. success.	Training without boundaries	Our passion for families touches the world	For the modern doula	Committed to developing caring, compassionate doulas	Where careers are built on passion	
Business Focus	Business Foundations for Birth Workers Course included in program with option to do as independent study or mentored with a trainer	Course available at additional cost	eBook included "Grow your birth business"	Business of Birth module (34 contact hours included)	Observe a DONA webinar on business (0.75-1.0 contact hours)	Included in program		Included in program	
Cultural Humility	Yes Module Included	Course available at additional cost		Yes - module included				Yes (\$3-125)	
Insurance Available	Yes in the USA & Canada			Yes in the USA & Canada	Yes in the USA, Canada & Australia			Yes in USA	

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Certification Requirements									
Required Reading	8- choose one book from each category and two from labor and birth	5 Required books & 5 books from the Optional reading list	7 - 5 books from reading list plus Understanding Birth & Understanding Breastfeeding	2 - free choice from a list of 45 titles	7 - choose from 6 different groups, must include Birth Partner; PLUS 2 position papers	10 specified titles	5 books - all specified	1 specified title - Birth Partner	
Assignments	In unit activities, interviews, community resource list	Online Content	Online Content	1 reflective practice essay	1 essay on value of labor support	Birth story for each birth supported; 2 essays; Business strategy outline	Yes	Webpage content questionnaire; Action plan; Research; 3 essays on required reading	13
Exam/Tests	Yes - open book	Yes	Yes	Yes - open book	None		Yes	Yes	Yes
Birth Support	4- One may be in an observational capacity, with evaluations from mother	3 Clients	3 Clients	2 Clients	3 Clients	3 Clients		3 Clients	
Minimum birth hours		50 hours cumulatively		20 hours total across both births				10 with the client who will be interviewed	
Birth Restrictions	At least from active labor on, two required prenatals, one postpartum, only one can be a cesarean	Must stay min 90 minutes postpartum, only one cesarean		Must provide some prenatal & postpartum support for at least 1 birth & be the primary doula	Only 1 can be a cesarean	Must include 1 vaginal birth, be the primary doula			

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Client Evaluations	3	3	3	Not Required	3	3		3 - client evaluations; 1 client must be interviewed on Skype with Head Office	
Medical Evaluations	Not Required	3	3	Not Required	3	Not Required		Not Required	
Childbirth Course Observation	Required		Not Required	Not Required	Required & submit an audit	Yes		Not Required	
Breastfeeding Observation	Required	Recommended	Not Required	Not Required	Not +Required	Not Required		Not Required	
Resource List	Required		Yes - resources for local support for clients	Yes - Survey of birth services locally	Yes	Yes - Local Resources		Not Required	
Letters of Recommendation	Not Required		Not Required	Not Required	2 required - from a perinatal health professional and a client reference	Not Required	Yes - employer and character references	3 (one must be Skype interviewed)	
Other Requirements	Infant/Child/Adult CPR Certification	Infant/Child/Adult CPR Certification	Not Required	None	DONA webinar on business (additional cost)	Infant/Child CPR certification		Personally Skype interviewed; First Aid course (additional cost)	

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Polices and Procedures									
Agreement to Policies	Code of Ethics; Standards of Practice	Code of Ethics; Standards of Practice	Code of Conduct; Social Media Policy; Grievance Policy; Mission Statement; CAPPA Approach, Scoe of Practice	Code of Practice	Code of Ethics; Standards of Practice		Scope of Practice; Professional Code of Conduct; Disciplinary Standards	Standards of Professionalism	Code of Ethics; Standards of Practice
Grievance Procedure	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yse	Yes	No		Yes	
Recertification Required	Yes, every two years. No fee with proof of continued education	Not Required	Yes, \$75 every 3 years	Not Required	Yes, \$80 every 3 years	No	Yes - every 3 years	Yes, every 2 years	
Membership	Optional	Not Required	Yes, \$75 per year	Not Required	Yes, \$100 per year	Optional - \$157 yearly		Yes, \$50 per year	
Refund Policy	Full refund within 30days of course if done online. Full refund on in person workshop if cancelled one month or more prior to workshop minus \$50 administrative fee.	Full refund less \$100 if 7 days or more prior to course; 50% refund if within 5 days of course starting	No refunds on certification costs, some trainers may have individual refund policies	Full refund within 48 hours of registering less \$50 admin fee	No refunds on certification costs, some trainers may have individual refund policies	No refunds		No refunds	None

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Support an intended freebirth	Discouraged	Not allowed	Up to individual	Up to individual	No policy	No policy		Not allowed	
Time Limit	2 years	24 months from last online live class	2 years from workshop	None	4 years from Workshop		None	18 months from workshop	
Resrictions	None	Must be 18 years of age. Infant/Child/Adult CPR Certification	Must be 18 years or older	None	None			No low fees charged to clients; maintain First Aid certificate; must have a client contract; website must be kept up to date	
Equal Opportunities Policy	Yes	No	No	yes	No	No		No	
Sustainability Policy	Yes	No	No	yes	No	No		No	

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Other Courses and Services									
Childbirth Educator Course	No	Yes	No	Yes	No	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes
Postpartum Doula Course	No	Yes included	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes
Lactation Course	No	No	Lactation Educator (Breastfeeding Counselor (130 hours valid for IBCLC requirements)	No	No	Yes (90 hours valid for IBCLC requirements)	No	Yes - breastfeeding educator - only available for graduates from 3 other programs
Other Courses	Business, social media, home birth doula, birth assistant, placenta encapsulation,	Infant Sleep Educator; Pre & postnatal Fitness; Diverse Families; Fertility	New Parent Educator; Pregnancy Fitness	Trauma Informed Professional & Professional Development	Professional Development	Professional Development		Advanced Business; Social Media Workshop; Placenta Business Coaching; Social Media Coaching	Massage for Laboring Women; Loss & Bereavement; Placenta Specialist
Other Services	Business Coaching, social media, private business mentoring		None	Private Mentoring	Advanced Doula Designation	None		Business Coaching; Social Media Coaching	None
Cross Certification	Yes; workshop must be within the last 5 years and must be in person		Yes	No	No	Yes	Yes	Yes	No
100% Online Training Available	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes	No	Yes	Yes	No	Yes

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Support and Access									
Ongoing Trainer Support	Yes		No	Yes - trainer reviews and assesses every assignment & provides ongoing support	No		One year of contract with trainer	No	No
Student Discussions	Facebook group open to non-members	Facebook group open to non-members	Facebook group open to members	Facebook group open to students & graduates; email discussion forum	Facebook group open to non-members	Yes		Facebook group open to members	
Online Referrals	Yes- list on website			Yes - list services on Find a Doula - open to everyone	Yes- list on website	Yes- list on website		Yes- list on website	
Start Training Immediately	Yes	No	No	Yes	No	No	No	No	No
Paperwork Available				Free - comprehensive package of forms and contracts				Contracts (\$35-\$40)	

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