



DOULA  
VERSITY  
INTERNATIONAL

## DoulaVersity Code of Ethics, Conduct, and Scope of Practice

### Code of Ethics and Conduct

**Expectations for Professionalism:** DoulaVersity upholds rigorous standards for certified doulas both in personal interactions and online presence. We expect our doulas to deliver professional services with integrity, characterized by reliability, honesty, punctuality, and tact in all interactions with clients and colleagues.

#### Social Media Guidelines:

- Certified doulas must not disclose or discuss any client information without explicit written consent from the client.
- Sharing photos of clients or their family members on any media platform, whether online or offline, requires the client's written consent.
- Respect and dignity towards clients, colleagues, and birth professionals are mandatory. Acts of degradation, bullying, or undermining within the birth field are strictly prohibited.
- Adherence to copyright and plagiarism laws is essential. Unauthorized use of another's work, including but not limited to handouts, blog posts, and memes, will result in immediate revocation of certification.

#### Professionalism in Client Interactions:

- Client confidentiality is paramount and must be preserved at all times.
- Certified doulas are expected to honor all aspects of their contracts and agreements with clients, including:
  - Availability as stipulated in the contract.
  - Prompt responses to client communications.
  - Fulfillment of all services outlined in the contract.
  - Reliability and punctuality
  - Provision of backup doula care as agreed, or clear communication if no backup is available.
  - Clear contracts outlining fees, services, and refund policies.

#### Interaction with Healthcare Providers:

- Doulas must operate harmoniously with the client's healthcare team. Doulas must not interfere with medical interventions or the decisions of healthcare providers.



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## **Scope of Practice**

- Certified doulas shall strictly adhere to the designated doula scope of practice, providing physical support (such as comfort measures), emotional, and basic educational support.
- Our doulas are expected to employ evidence-based birth practices and offer unbiased support to families.
- Advocacy for clients' wishes with healthcare providers is not within the doula's role; clients should communicate their preferences directly.
- Doulas must not perform medical tasks such as taking blood pressure, checking fetal heart tones, or conducting vaginal exams.
- Recommendations for alternative treatments, including vitamins, minerals, essential oils, or herbal remedies, must be prefaced with advice for clients to consult their healthcare provider.

## **Additional Certifications:**

- Doulas certified in complementary disciplines (e.g., massage therapy, aromatherapy, childbirth education) must clearly inform clients when services are provided under these certifications rather than their doula certification.

## **Compliance and Consequences:**

- Failure to adhere to DoulaVersity's code of ethics, conduct, or scope of practice may result in the revocation of certification.

*By signing this document, I agree to abide by DoulaVersity's code of ethics, conduct, and scope of practice.*

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**(Printed Name)**

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**(Signature)**

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**(Date)**