



# Idaho Board of Nursing

## Position Statement

### Idaho Midwifery Pathways

The Board of Nursing (BON) regulates three (3) levels of nurses: licensed practical nurses (LPN), professional or registered nurses (RN), and advanced practice registered nurse (APRN). One of the four (4) roles of advanced practice nursing is nurse midwifery. A licensed RN who has graduated from a nurse midwifery education program accredited by the Accreditation Commission for Midwifery Education (ACME), passed a qualifying examination recognized by the BON and holds current certification from a BON recognized national organization, is qualified to be licensed by the BON as a “Certified Nurse-Midwife” (CNM). A CNM is educated with at least the BSN level or higher in the disciplines of both nursing and midwifery, with the master’s level now the entry level education for the profession. A CNM provides primary healthcare to women throughout their lifespans with a special emphasis on pregnancy, childbirth, and gynecologic and reproductive health. A CNM’s practice includes the authority to diagnose and prescribe. While not exclusive, the practice setting for delivery by a CNM is most often in a hospital.

The practice of Midwifery, separate from Certified Nurse Midwifery, is regulated under the provisions of title 54, chapter 55, Idaho Code. A person issued a license under this code is known as a “Licensed Midwife” (L.M.). Under these statutes, an L.M. is not required to have the education, training or qualifications of a nurse. The scope of practice for an L.M. is restricted by statute and distinct from the practice of nursing. The typical practice setting for delivery by a LM is in the home or a birth center.

Adopted:  
05/18/2000

Reviewed:  
10/17/2024

Revised:  
10/17/2024