



Kevin Corbett | Chief Executive Officer

J. Kevin Stitt | Governor

OHCA 2023-14

July 1, 2023

RE: Doula Services

Dear Provider,

The Oklahoma Health Care Authority (OHCA) is pleased to announce that on July 1, 2023, doula services are a covered benefit for pregnant and postpartum SoonerCare members.

A doula, or birth worker, is a trained professional who provides emotional, physical, and informational support during the prenatal, labor, delivery, and postpartum periods. Doulas are non-clinical and do not provide medical care.

Doula services may include, but are not limited to:

- Providing emotional and physical support, including but not limited to prenatal coaching, physical comfort measures, and person-centered care honoring cultural and family traditions;
- Advocating and working as part of the member's multidisciplinary team;
- Prenatal counseling and assisting the member in preparing for and carrying out plans for birth;
- Teaching and advocating on behalf of the birthing parent during appointment visits;
- Facilitating and assuring access and linkage to resources that can improve birth-related outcomes, such as transportation, housing, alcohol & drug cessation, WIC, SNAP, and intimate partner violence resources;
- Providing ongoing education, with emphasis on postpartum care and resources;
- Providing information on infant feeding, breastfeeding guidance and resources, including referrals to lactation consultants as needed; and
- Supporting the whole birth team, including the birthing parent's partner, family members and other support persons.



ADDRESS

4345 N. Lincoln Blvd.
Oklahoma City, OK 73105



WEBSITES

okhca.org
mysoonerca.org



PHONE

Admin: 405-522-7300
Helpline: 800-987-7767

All members who are pregnant or within the postpartum period are eligible for doula services, with a referral from a medical practitioner (such as a physician, obstetrician, physician assistant, certified nurse practitioner or certified nurse midwife).

Members are allowed eight prenatal/postnatal visits and one labor & delivery care visit. The member and doula coordinate to determine how to utilize the visits, including how many will occur during the prenatal period or postpartum period, and the most appropriate service location for the visits. Prenatal and postpartum visits can also be conducted via telehealth.

In order to contract with OHCA, providers of doula services must be at least 18 years of age and have an NPI number. Providers must also be certified by an organization recognized by the Oklahoma Health Care Authority for the certification of doulas. This list may be found at www.oklahoma.gov/ohca/doula. The types of certifications accepted are:

- Birth Doula
- Postpartum Doula
- Full-Spectrum Doula
- Community-Based Doula

If you have any questions regarding this change, please visit www.oklahoma.gov/ohca/doula or call the OHCA provider helpline at 800-522-0114.

Thank you for your continued service to Oklahoma's SoonerCare members.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Traylor Rains". The signature is fluid and cursive, with a large initial "T" and a long, sweeping underline.

Traylor Rains
State Medicaid Director