

REQUIREMENTS FOR ACTIVE PRACTICE

Registration shall be renewed or reinstated for a general, non-practicing or former registrant who satisfies the requirements for active practice as described here and in Bylaw 46(1)(b) or 46(4), as well as the requirements for renewal described in Bylaw 53 or reinstatement in Bylaw 56 or 56.1. A general, non-practicing or former registrant who satisfies the requirements for renewal or reinstatement but does not satisfy the clinical experience requirements in Bylaw 46(1)(b) or 46(4) shall be renewed or reinstated as a conditional (return to practice) registrant in Bylaw 48.2 with a supervision plan to address the gap in clinical experience requirements.

1. A registrant shall satisfy the requirement for active practice if the registrant provides midwifery care as follows:

Two-year requirement

Over a two-year period, the registrant provides midwifery care to at least forty women in BC or in another jurisdiction in Canada where midwifery is regulated¹, twenty of whom the registrant attended as a principal midwife², with ten of these twenty births occurring in a hospital and ten in an out-of-hospital setting³. Twenty of the forty women must have received care from the registrant in pregnancy, labour, birth and the postpartum period.

¹ Given that one of the objectives of the two-year requirement is to support newly registered BC midwives in consolidating their competence to practice within the Canadian scope and model of practice, a registrant may not count births attended outside of a Canadian regulated jurisdiction toward her two-year requirement. Once a registrant has fulfilled the two-year requirement, she may apply for approval by the Active Practice Panel of the Quality Assurance Committee to count births attended outside of Canada toward meeting her five-year requirement.

² Principal midwife means a midwife who takes primary responsibility for and provides midwifery care during the intrapartum period. This includes the management of the first, second and third stages of labour. Where a midwife is providing direct supervision to a student midwife, a conditional registrant, a conditional (remedial) registrant or a conditional (return to practice) registrant, the midwife can count those births as births attended as principal midwife. Up to 20% of the active practice requirement for principal midwife may be transfers of care, so long as the registrant was involved in the decision to transfer and continued to provide supportive care for the birth.

³ Where a midwife is working in a rural or remote community where the hospital does not have cesarean section capabilities, the midwife may apply to have births attended in that facility count toward both the hospital and out-of-hospital birth requirements. Documentation of the provision of choice of birth place appropriate to the community (e.g. addressing transport time, resources, etc.) must be provided.

Five-year requirement

A registrant who complies with the two-year requirement outlined above in the first two consecutive years after registration in British Columbia may elect to satisfy ongoing requirements for active practice by, in any subsequent five year period, providing midwifery care to at least 60 women in BC or in another jurisdiction where midwifery is regulated, 40 of whom the registrant attended as a principal midwife, with 30 of the 60 births conducted in accordance with the principles of continuity of care (where the midwife was known to the woman prior to labour), five of the 40 births occurring in a hospital and five of the 40 in an out-of-hospital setting, to ensure that the midwife continues to meet the minimum clinical experience requirements for general registration as set out in Bylaw 46(1)(b).

2. A registrant must report active practice numbers after the first two years of registration and, once the two-year requirement has been met, subsequently report every five years thereafter, inclusive of any leaves of absence, and when requested if returning to an active class of registration after an absence from practice of a year or more.
3. Where a registrant has a full-time faculty appointment at a recognized midwifery education program and has attended as a midwife, in a jurisdiction where midwifery is recognized by law, at a minimum of 200 births, the registrant may satisfy the five-year requirement for active practice by providing midwifery care to 25 women, 20 as the principal midwife, 15 births where the midwife was known to the woman prior to labour, five births occurring in a hospital, and five in an out-of-hospital setting in either the role of principal or second midwife. If a registrant's faculty appointment occurs within her five-year active practice period but the duration of her appointment is less than five years, the five-year requirement for her active practice will be proportionally prorated according to the number of years of her faculty appointment.⁴
4. Where a registrant is practicing within a project serving women with diverse needs approved and monitored by the Quality Assurance Committee⁵, the registrant may satisfy the five-year requirement or some portion of that requirement for continuity of care and choice of birth place as defined by the project's approved terms of reference.⁴
5. Should a registrant fail to meet the requirements for active practice as outlined above, the registrant shall be required to fulfill a remedial plan set by the Active Practice Panel of the Quality Assurance Committee in accordance with the College's policy on *Requirements for Registrants with Active Practice Shortfalls*.

⁴ Where clinical numbers are not sufficient to maintain requirements for general registration as set out in Bylaw 46(1)(b) or 46(4)(d), conditions or limitations may be placed on the member's registration to meet bylaw requirements.

⁵ See *Policy on Midwifery Pilot Projects to Serve Women with Diverse Needs*.

Explanatory Grid of how Active Practice Requirements may be met

In the first two consecutive years after registration:

	Births Attended in an Out-Of-Hospital Setting as Principal Midwife⁶	Births Attended in Hospital as Principal Midwife⁶	Births Attended as Principal Midwife	Births Attended as a Midwife with continuity⁸	Total Births Attended as a Midwife (both principal and second midwife)
Over a Two-Year period	10	10	20	20	40

Five-Year Requirement⁷:

	Births Attended in an Out-Of-Hospital Setting as Principal Midwife⁶	Births Attended in Hospital as Principal Midwife⁶	Births Attended as Principal Midwife	Births Attended as a Midwife with continuity⁸	Total Births Attended as a Midwife (both principal and second midwife)
Over a Five-Year period	5	5	40	30	60
Over a Five-Year period (if a registrant falls into a category as detailed in 3 above)	5	5	20	15	25

⁶ A midwife may count up to 20% transfers of care toward these active practice requirements.

⁷ After the two-year requirement is met, clinical experience is reported based on the *Bylaws for the College of Midwives of BC*, Section 46(1)(b) or 46(4)(d).

⁸ Births attended as either principal or second midwife where the registrant was known to the woman prior to her attendance at the woman's labour and birth.