

Midwife

Deliver babies and care for families through pregnancy and the weeks after. On call around the clock, and paid well for it.

TYPICAL PAY

\$105,000

a year, full time

PAY RANGE

\$85k to \$135k

starting to experienced

TIME TO QUALIFY

4 years

after high school

DEMAND

Good

job outlook

LICENCE NEEDED

Yes

regulated job

WHERE YOU WORK

Homes, hospitals, birth centres, clinics

How you get there

- 1 High school** Grades 11 and 12
Biology, chemistry, English. Programs are small and competitive; high 80s helps.
- 2 Bachelor of Midwifery** 4 years
A 4-year degree. About half of it is clinical placement with practising midwives, where you attend dozens of births before you graduate.
- 3 CMRE (Canadian Midwifery Registration Examination)** After graduation
A national multiple-choice exam, written online with a remote proctor, offered twice a year in spring and fall.
- 4 Register with your provincial college** A few weeks
For example the College of Midwives of Ontario. New registrants have a period with extra oversight.
- 5 Join a practice group** Right after
You do not apply to a hospital. You join or start a midwifery practice, which holds the hospital privileges.

Pros and cons

- + Deep relationships: you follow a family from early pregnancy to 6 weeks after birth
- + Real autonomy as a primary care provider
- + Four years of school to six figures
- On call 24 hours a day, sometimes for weeks at a stretch
- Births at 3 a.m. and missed holidays
- Self-employed: you handle your own taxes and business

Optional boosts

Newborn resuscitation and emergency skills. Indigenous midwifery. Expanded prescribing. Master's degree.

Good to know

Free for families

In Ontario, BC and most other provinces, midwifery care is paid for by the provincial health plan, the same as a doctor. Clients pay nothing.

Ontario went first

Ontario was the first province to regulate and fund midwifery, in 1994. Before that, midwives had no legal standing and could not work in hospitals.

Where these numbers come from

Job Bank: Midwives, wages (updated Nov 2025)

College of Midwives of Ontario

College of Midwives of Ontario: Renewal requirements and fees

Canadian Midwifery Regulators Council: Registration exam

Numbers checked September 2026. Pay figures are typical full-time annual amounts in Canadian dollars, based on Government of Canada Job Bank wage data and published salary grids. They vary by province, employer and experience. Tuition is for domestic students. Sources, links and the click-through version: <https://career.help/ca/careers/midwife>



Scan for the full clicker