The Regulation of Professional Midwifery in the United States

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The World Health Organization (WHO) designated 2020 as the International Year of the Nurse and the Midwife. Part of the WHO campaign focuses on the fact that nurses and midwives comprise more than half of the shortfall in the global health workforce. In the United States, maternity care is critical because half of rural counties have no access to maternity providers and because the rate of maternal morbidity and mortality continues to climb, surpassing rates of countries with similar incomes. Midwives have a proven record for quality, safety, cost-savings, and high patient satisfaction, yet they attend only 10.2% of births in the United States. In many countries with better maternal mortality and morbidity outcomes, midwives attend 50% to 70% of births. This article reviews the history of professional midwifery in the United States, including the development of the certified midwife credential, outlines current challenges in regulation of the profession, and summarizes widely accepted recommendations to improve access to high quality maternal and child health through support of the midwifery workforce. It is intended to assist state boards of nursing in understanding how they might expand their authority to include the licensing and regulation of certified midwives.

Keywords: Midwifery, nurse-midwife, certified midwife, certified professional midwife, nurse-midwifery, nursing, regulation

Objectives

- Review the history of professional midwifery in the United States, including the development of the certified midwife credential.
- Outline current challenges in regulation of the midwifery profession.
- Summarize widely accepted recommendations to improve access to high quality maternal and child health through support of the midwifery workforce.
- Consider expansion of state boards of nursing authority to include the licensing and regulation of certified midwives.

he World Health Organization (WHO) has designated 2020 as the International Year of the Nurse and the Midwife (WHO, 2019). The WHO campaign and its technical reports address that "nurses and midwives constitute more than 50% of the health workforce in many countries, and also more than 50% of the shortfall in the global health workforce to 2030" (WHO, 2020).

In the United States, midwives attend only 10.2% of births, in stark contrast to many countries where midwives attend 50% to 70% of births (Valvanne, 2001). It has been suggested that this is one factor contributing to the climbing rate of maternal morbidity and mortality in the United States, which is higher than rates in countries with similar incomes (WHO, 2015). Overall, the United States has a severe shortage of obstetrical care providers (Vetter et al., 2019), and half of rural counties have no access to maternity providers (Hung et al., 2017). Midwives have a demonstrated record for quality, safety, cost-savings, and high patient satisfaction (Renfrew et al., 2014), yet they face legal and regulatory hurdles advancing in their profession (Yang et al., 2016).

This article reviews the history of professional midwifery in the United States and the certified midwife (CM) credential. It also outlines current challenges in regulation of the profession and summarizes widely accepted recommendations to improve access to high quality maternal and child health through support of the midwifery workforce. It is intended to assist state boards of nursing (BONs) in understanding how they might expand their authority to include the licensing and regulation of CMs.

Development of Professional Midwifery in the United States

The pairing of nursing with midwifery in the United States began during the early 1910s when U.S. public health nurses traveled to England for midwifery training and returned to practice as nurse-midwives (Varney & Thompson, 2016). These early nursemidwives were a response to professionalization of medicine in the early 1900s, when "man-midwives" (physicians who attended births) tried to get rid of the "midwife problem" by forcing midwives out of practice (Burst, 2010). The Grand (or "Granny") midwives, along with indigenous and immigrant midwives who cared for the maternal and child health needs of most of the U.S. population, all but disappeared by the 1950s (Dawley, 2005). Programs that taught midwifery to graduate nurses began during the 1920s and increased steadily throughout the mid-20th century (Varney & Thompson, 2016). Early nurse-midwives primarily did public health work in urban settlement houses and rural areas (Varney & Thompson, 2016). They worked as nurse educators, maternity consultants, and administrators; only one fifth of these nurse-midwives practiced clinically between 1955 and 1958 (Dawley, 2005).

The American College of Nurse-Midwives (ACNM) was founded in 1955. By the 1980s, the ACNM and others successfully advocated for certified nurse-midwives (CNMs) to be licensed or granted a permit to practice in all 50 states and U.S. territories (Varney & Thompson, 2016). Today, the ACNM represents CNMs and CMs in the federal and state legislative arenas, provides member services, and engages in global health work. CNMs have become the predominant midwife type in the United States, with 12,111 CNMs as of 2018 (American Midwifery Certification Board, 2019). Today, CNMs work in many settings, including hospitals, birth centers, homes, clinics, and universities. CNMs also work as consultants for international agencies.

Regulating Maternal and Child Health

The purpose of regulation is protection of the public. Regulatory boards create registries of those licensed to practice, define standards for education and practice, and discipline providers for misconduct (National Council of State Boards of Nursing, n.d.-b; Nursing and Midwifery Council, n.d.). Worldwide, midwives are regulated by ministers of health, midwifery councils or boards, nursing and midwifery councils, or directly by nursing. The International Confederation of Midwives (ICM), representing 140 midwifery associations in 120 countries, recommends that midwifery regulation be specific to midwifery, that midwifery be established as an autonomous profession (neither medicine nor nursing), and that midwifery practice be regulated by midwives (ICM, 2011).

Midwife Certification

The development of CNMs was well underway when a resurgence of direct-entry midwives resulted in two new pathways to national certification as a midwife: (1) certified professional midwives (CPMs), who are certified by the North American Registry of Midwives, and (2) CMs who are certified by the American Midwifery Certification Board. These were largely influenced by the Carnegie Foundation Workgroup, which met in 1989 and 1990 with a focus to develop alternate pathways to midwifery education and core competencies (Dorothea Lang, CNM, former president ACNM, personal papers). From 1991 through 1994, Carnegie funded the Interorganizational Workgroup on Midwifery Education, which consisted of members of the ACNM, the Midwives Alliance of North America, and consumers (Rooks & Carr, 1995). They were unsuccessful at developing a consensus statement, and the two separate education pathways subsequently emerged.

CPM Certification

The CPM pathway arose out of the feminist women's health movement and consumer desires to bring birth back into the home. Women studied midwifery texts, apprenticed with other midwives, and eventually formed organizations to (a) support midwifery (Midwives Alliance of North America), (b) develop educational standards (Midwifery Education Accreditation Commission), (c) establish the CPM credential (North American Registry of Midwives), and (d) support the CPM credential (National Association of Certified Professional Midwives). Today, CPMs either complete a competency-based apprenticeship process or a program that confers an educational certificate or an associate's, bachelor's, or master's degree (Midwives Alliance of America, 2014) in one of nine CPM educational programs accredited by the Midwifery Education Accreditation Council. The majority of CPMs in practice today (63.1%) trained through the apprenticeship pathway (Cheyney et al., 2015). CPMs are currently licensed in 34 states and the District of Columbia (National Association of Certified Professional Midwives, 2020), and as of 2018, there were 2309 CPMs in North America attending births in homes or in freestanding birth centers (Ida Darragh, CPM, Director of Testing, North American Registry of Midwives, written communication, July 2019).

CM Certification

Concurrent to the development of the CPM, ACNM leadership was working on its own standard for direct-entry midwifery education and certification equivalent to the standards for CNMs and international midwives (Burst, 1995). In 1994, ACNM established the CM credential, which created a pathway for those without a background in nursing to accredited education, national certification, and the same scope of practice as CNMs (Dawley, 2005). ACNM members had been calling for an equivalent direct entry path to midwifery since the 1970s (Varney & Thompson, 2016), and many factors converged for ACNM to take action. ACNM wanted to provide a pathway to midwifery for physician assistants and other health professionals who were being delegated midwifery practice by supervising physicians without the necessary knowledge, skills, and competencies (Burst, 1995). In addition, some states were developing licensing mechanisms for midwifery, including New York State in 1992, and the ACNM wanted to set a standard for licensed midwives in the United States. Finally, ACNM sought to scale up midwifery by developing pathways to midwifery education without nursing as a prerequisite, making available seats in nursing programs for student nurses.

As a part of the CM curriculum development, the ACNM Division of Accreditation evaluated the knowledge and skills necessary for entering midwifery education and developed a list of prerequisites for an accredited direct-entry midwifery program (Accreditation Commission for Midwifery Education [ACME], 2005). In 1996, the State University of New York, Downstate and the North Central Bronx Hospital opened the first ACNM preaccredited direct-entry midwifery program. Graduates were eligible to sit for the same American Midwifery Certification Board (AMCB) national examination as CNMs, and the first graduates received the CM credential in 1997 (Fullerton et al., 1998). Today, student midwives enter accredited midwifery education programs with science prerequisites, are educated together with students with a nursing background, and all sit for the same national certification examination from the AMCB (Marzalik et al., 2018).

The concept of "equivalence" is crucial to understanding the efforts to develop the CM credential. The ICM defines equivalence as "a relationship of parity between one system, jurisdiction, or institution and another with respect to the value and significance of courses diplomas, certificates, licenses and/or degrees" (ICM, n.d.). Ideally these relationships are mutual so that holders of equivalent credentials are treated in the same way. In 2008, ICM adopted a position statement on legislation to govern midwifery practice that said, in part, "provide for entry to the profession that is based on competencies and standards and which makes no distinction on routes of entry" (ICM, 2014).

Despite this equivalence to CNMs—receiving the same midwifery education, having the same scope of practice, and being certified by the same national organization—only 7 states currently license CMs (A. Kohl, personal communication, July 13, 2020). There are only two programs accredited by the ACME that accept students both for the CM and CNM pathway, compared to 36 programs that graduate CNMs (ACME, n.d.). It has been challenging to convince states to establish CM licensure when there are few or no CMs in the state, and it is difficult to entice CMs to move to a state where they cannot be licensed. Individuals choosing the CM pathway are pioneers in the profession. As new states develop CM licensure, several education programs are poised to add the CM option.

Midwives as APRNs: The Consensus Model

Not long after endorsing the Consensus Model for Advanced Practice Registered Nurse (APRN) Regulation, the ACNM, the ACME, and the AMCB published a white paper, "Midwifery in the U.S. and the Consensus Model for APRN Regulation" (ACNM et al., 2011). The three organizations make five recommendations for further implementation of the model. The second is to "urge boards of nursing to support Boards of Midwifery or Boards of Nurse-Midwifery," and where that is not feasible:

{G}iven that CMs have the same core education requirements, attain the same theoretical and clinical competencies, and take the same certification examination as CNMs, we urge state boards of nursing to expand their purview to include the licensing and regulation of certified midwives (ACNM et al., 2011).

Boards of nursing (BONs) successfully regulate individuals who are not nurses; at least 22 state BONs regulate nonlicensed assistive personnel as well as licensed providers such as massage therapists.

Federal Options for Regulating APRNs and Midwives

The ICM Global Standards for Midwifery Regulation suggest that regulation should be national (ICM, 2011). In writing for the landmark Future of Nursing report about "Federal Options for Maximizing the Value of Advanced Practice Nurses in Providing Quality, Cost-Effective Health Care," Safriet called a federal approach "aspirational" (Safriet, 2011).

Midwifery Legislation and Regulation

As various routes to midwifery were established, there was debate within the midwifery community about the best approach for education, accreditation, and licensure. Much of that played out at the state level in debates about licensure and regulation. The publication of the ICM Global Standards in 2011 significantly impacted those conversations, as it established a clear international standard to meet. In 2013, leaders of the organizations working to further CNMs, CMs, and CPMs "came together with intentionality toward collaborative consensus-building to create forward movement" and formed the U.S. Midwifery Education, Regulation, and Association (U.S. MERA; 2015). The participating organizations used a modified Delphi process to create standards for regulation of U.S. midwives based on international models (Kennedy et al., 2018).

In 2015, the eight organizations represented in U.S. MERA published a consensus document, "Principles for Model U.S. Midwifery Legislation & Regulation" (U.S. MERA, 2015), which serves as a guide for state authority to regulate, register, and license midwives. The principles include "the establishment of education qualifications, setting standards for practice and conduct, management of complaints, and issues pertaining to liability insurance and reimbursement" (U.S. MERA, n.d.).

State Variation of Midwifery

In the United States, each state creates its own statute and regulation for midwives. In 44 states, CNMs are regulated by a board of nursing (BON). In other states, CNMs are regulated by boards of medicine, public health, commerce, or joint nursing and medicine. CMs are regulated by boards of medicine or midwifery and departments of health, while CPMs are regulated by a variety of boards (boards of midwifery, medicine, nursing, complementary healthcare providers), departments of health, or departments of professional licensure or regulation (Tables 1 and 2).

The wide variety of titles used in regulatory language adds to the challenge of understanding the midwifery workforce. The Consensus Model mandates that CNMs are licensed as APRNs and provides for a title, although there is not universal adoption (National Council of State Boards of Nursing, n.d.-a). CNMs are licensed as registered nurses, APRNs, advanced practice nurses, nurse midwives, nurse practitioners, and licensed midwives. CMs are licensed midwives or licensed CMs. CPMs also have a variety of titles, including licensed direct entry midwife, licensed midwife, and CPMs (Tables 1 and 2).

Titling is just one aspect of the legal and regulatory actions that are ongoing in many states. With each legislative session, the situation can change with regard to whom is licensed and how, so regular updating of information is critical for state boards and all who follow these developments. Interpretation of law and regulation also varies. In fact, the online chart of the North American Registry of Midwives summarizing state by state legal status of direct-entry midwifery includes a column to designate states where "judicial interpretation varies" (North American Registry of Midwives, 2019).

Scope of practice is another important issue to consider. Although CNMs, like all APRN roles, have technical ability to practice in all 50 states, their actual ability to provide care is severely limited by statutory or regulatory language that inhibits their ability to practice where the care is most needed due to restrictions to be supervised by physicians in some important aspects of their practice (Phillips, 2019; Ranchoff & Declercq, 2019). The specifics of state regulation and whether or not CMs and CPMs are regulated together has a significant impact on scope of practice and prescriptive authority. There is a better opportunity for full scope of practice for CMs when they are licensed with CNMs, although this is not true in every state. The following examples illustrate the variety of licensing and regulating schemes for CMs.

- New York: CMs have full-practice authority, including prescriptive authority. They are regulated with CNMs by the State Education Department Board of Regents (with a board of midwifery). All midwives in New York are titled as licensed midwives; the equivalence of CNMs and CMs is recognized (New York State Office of the Professions, n.d.).
- Rhode Island: CNMs, CMs, and CPMs are regulated by the Department of Health. State statute provides for full practice authority for all three credentials and prescriptive authority for CNMs and CMs. There is no prescriptive authority for CPMs, although they have a formulary that allows them to carry necessary drugs (Rhode Island Department of Health, n.d.).
- New Jersey: CNMs, CMs, and CPMs are regulated via a board of medicine with a midwifery liaison committee. There are prescriptive privileges for CNMs but not for CMs. Hospital regulation requires a nursing license for privileging (New Jersey State Website, n.d.), creating a significant barrier to practice. As a result, many CMs have left New Jersey and moved to New York to practice.
- Maine: A licensing statute for CMs and CPMs was passed in 2016, but no regulations have been promulgated. CMs will have the same scope of practice as CNMs, though they are regulated

by a different board. They will also have prescriptive privileges, with a limitation to prescribing Schedule II medications (Maine State Legislature, n.d.).

- Delaware: CMs and CPMs were simultaneously licensed in 2016. The statute refers to ACNM scope of practice for CMs, but regulations written by the Midwifery Advisory Council are extremely limited and site specific, focusing on home birth (State of Delaware, n.d.). As result, no CMs are practicing in the state.
- Hawaii and Oklahoma: CMs and CPMs were licensed in 2019 and 2020, respectively. No differentiation is made between CPMs and CMs, limiting CMs to the more narrow CPM scope of practice and to out-of-birth practice (State of Hawaii, n.d.; State of Oklahoma, 2020).

When CMs and CPMs are regulated together, as is the case in Delaware, Hawaii, and Oklahoma, the potential exists for CM scope of practice to be limited. CPM legislation and regulation limits practice to home and birth center birth, and to be relieved of the requirement for a written practice agreement with a physician, some regulations are site specific and prescriptive. These situations underscore the importance of differentiating the qualifications and scope of the provider from the site of birth (ACNM, 2016).

Efforts are currently underway in several states to license CMs. Professional organizations are in the early stages of introducing legislation in Virginia, West Virginia, and Maryland (A. Kohl, personal communication, December 16, 2020). In Pennsylvania, a state where CNMs are regulated by the board of medicine, professional organizations will be introducing a CM licensure as well as will introduce a bill in 2021 (E. McGahey, personal communication, December 14, 2020). Some state BONs are involved in licensing efforts. In Minnesota, a bill was introduced in 2020 that was drafted in cooperation with the BON with support of the APRN coalition (M. Huber, personal communication, October 20, 2020). The District of Columbia BON has drafted legislation that is part of the Health Occupations Revision Act (E. Lamme, CNM, DC Board of Nursing, personal communication, November 2, 2019). The District of Columbia will license CMs equivalent to CNMs with full scope of practice and prescriptive authority.

Current Challenges

In states lacking appropriate regulatory structure, a variety of problems have resulted. Particularly problematic is the management of complaints, with inappropriate oversight and discipline (e.g., when boards of medicine oversee nurses). For example, CNMs in Pennsylvania are regulated by a state board of medicine (Pennsylvania Department of State, n.d.) and share a rotation with other professionals (including respiratory therapists and perfusionists) for a seat on the medical board; therefore, a disciplinary case could be reviewed without input from a midwife. The ICM Global Standards for Midwifery Regulation document recognizes complaint and discipline as one of the main functions of regulation and recommends that "midwives and women (as users of mid-

TABLE 1

Titles and Regulatory Boards for Certified Nurse Midwives (CNMs) and Certified Midwives (CMs)

State	CNMTitle	CNM Regulatory Board	CMTitle	CM Regulatory Board
Alabama	Advanced Practice Nurse	Alabama Board of Nursing		
Alaska	Advanced Practice Registered Nurse	Alaska Board of Nursing		
Arizona	Advanced Practice Registered Nurse	Arizona Board of Nursing		
Arkansas	Advanced Practice Registered Nurse	Arkansas State Board of Nursing		
California	Advanced Practice Registered Nurse	California Board of Registered Nurs- ing/Nurse-Midwifery Committee		
Colorado	Certified Nurse-Midwife Advanced Practice Nurse	Colorado Board of Nursing		
Connecticut	Certified Nurse-Midwife or Licensed Nurse-Midwife ^a	Department of Public Health		
Delaware	Certified Nurse-Midwife Advanced Practice Nurse	Delaware Board of Nursing	Certified Midwife	Delaware Board of Medicine (Midwifery Advisory Council
District of Columbia	Certified Nurse-Midwives	Board of Nursing		(
Florida	Advanced Practice Registered Nurse	Florida Board of Nursing		
Georgia	Advanced Practice Registered Nurse	Georgia Board of Nursing		
Hawaii	Advanced Practice Registered Nurse	Hawaii Board of Nursing	Certified Midwife	Department of Commerce and Consumer Affairs (Mid- wifery Advisory Committee)
Idaho	Advanced Practice Registered Nurse	Idaho Board of Nursing/APRN Adviso- ry Committee		
Illinois	Advanced Practice Registered Nurse	Illinois Board of Nursing		
Indiana	Advanced Practice Registered Nurse	Indiana State Board of Nursing		
lowa	Advanced Registered Nurse Practitioner	lowa Board of Nursing		
Kansas	Advanced Practice Registered Nurse	Kansas State Board of Nursing		
Kentucky	Advanced Practice Registered Nurse	Kentucky Board of Nursing		
Louisiana	Advanced Practice Registered Nurse	Louisiana State Board of Nursing		
Massachusetts	Advanced Practice Registered Nurse	Bureau of Health Professions (Board of Nursing)		
Maine	Advanced Practice Registered Nurse	Maine State Board of Nursing	Certified Midwife	Board of Complementary Healthcare Providers
Maryland	Advanced Practice Registered Nurse	Maryland Board of Nursing		
Michigan	Advanced Practice Registered Nurse	Department of Licensing and Regula- tory Affairs: Michigan Board of Nursing		
Minnesota	Advanced Practice Registered Nurse	Minnesota Board of Nursing: APRN Advisory Council		
Mississippi	Advanced Practice Registered Nurse	Mississippi Board of Nursing		
Missouri	Advanced Practice Registered Nurse	Missouri Board of Nursing		
Montana	Advanced Practice Registered Nurse	Montana Board of Nursing		
Nebraska	Advanced Practice Registered Nurse-Certified Nurse-Midwife	Board of Advanced Practice Registered Nurses		
Nevada	Advanced Practice Registered Nurse	Board of Nursing		
New Hampshire	Advanced Practice Registered Nurse	Board of Nursing		
New Jersey	Certified Nurse-Midwife	Board of Medical Examiners (Midwife- ry Liaison Committee)	Certified Midwife	Board of Medical Examiners (Midwifery Liaison Committee)
New Mexico	Certified Nurse-Midwife	Department of Health: Public Health Division: CNM Advisory Board		

icensed Midwife dvanced Practice Registered Nurse dvanced Nurse-Midwife	State Board of Midwifery (appoint- ment by Board of Regents) Midwifery Joint Committee: North Carolina Medical Board and the Board of Nursing North Dakota Board of Nursing Ohio Board of Nursing Oklahoma Board of Nursing Oregon State Board of Nursing Pennsylvania State Board of Medicine Rhode Island Department of Health:	Licensed Midwife Licensed Midwife	State Board of Midwifery (appointment by Board of Regents) State Commissioner of Health (Advisory Committee on Midwifery)
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ertified Nurse-Midwife	Pennsylvania State Board of Medicine		
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ertified Nurse-Midwife	Rhode Island Department of Health:		
	Professional Licensing: Advisory Council of Midwifery	Certified Midwife	Rhode Island Department or Health: Professional Licens- ing: Advisory Council of Midwifery
ertified Nurse-Midwife	South Carolina Board of Nursing		
ertified Nurse-Midwife	South Dakota Board of Nursing		
dvanced Practice Nurses	Tennessee Board of Nursing		
dvanced Practice Nurse	Texas Board of Nursing		
dvanced Practice Registered Nurse	Utah Department of Commerce; Divi- sion of Occupational and Professional Licensing: Board of Nursing		
dvanced Practice Registered Nurse	Vermont Board of Nursing		
icensed Nurse Practitioner	Virginia Board of Nursing Virginia Committee of the Joint Boards of Nursing and Medicine		
dvanced Registered Nurse ractitioner	Washington State Department of Health		
dvanced Practice Registered Nurse	West Virginia Registered Nurse Board		
lurse-Midwife	Wisconsin Department of Safety and Professional Services: Board of Nursing		
dvanced Practice Registered Nurse	Wyoming Board of Nursing		
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Titles and Regulatory Boards for Certified Nurse Midwives (CNMs) and Certified Midwives (CMs) *(continued)*

wifery services) are part of the governance of midwifery regulatory bodies" (ICM, 2011).

Another challenge has to do with the availability of accurate workforce data, which all regulators and stakeholders need for effective policy-making. BONs are often looked to for data about the nursing and midwifery workforce. In the case of maternal and child health, birth certificates are an important source. However, studies have shown both underrepresentation and inaccurate identification of midwifery-attended births (Biscone et al., 2017; Faucett & Kennedy, 2020).

Conclusion

Scaling up the midwifery profession is one important way to halt the growing maternity care crisis in the United States. The WHO International Year of the Nurse and the Midwife and a global pandemic highlighted the role of nurses and midwives and increased understanding of these "sister" professions, opening an important window to effect needed changes in laws and regulations that currently hinder growth of the profession and access to care. As a part of its 2015-2020 Strategic Plan, the ACNM is actively engaged in efforts to license CMs across the country (ACNM, 2015). The staff and volunteer membership seek to work actively with BONs in that endeavor.

TABLE 2

Titles and Regulatory Boards for Certified Professional Midwives

State	Title	Regulatory Board	
Alabama	Licensed Midwife	Alabama State Board of Midwives	
Alaska	Certified Direct Entry Midwives	Board of Certified Direct Entry Midwives	
Arizona	Licensed Midwife	Arizona Department of Health Services (Licensed Midwifery Advisory Committee)	
Arkansas	Licensed Lay Midwife	Arkansas State Board of Health (Midwife Advisory Board)	
California	Licensed Midwife	Medical Board of California (Midwifery Advisory Council)	
Colorado	Registered Midwife	Colorado Department of Regulatory Affairs: Division of Professions and Occupa- tions: Office of Direct Entry Midwifery Registration	
Connecticut	Not recognized		
Delaware	Certified Professional Midwife	Division of Professional Regulation: Board of Medical Licensure and Discipline (Midwifery Advisory Council)	
Florida	Licensed Midwife	Department of Health (Council of Licensed Midwifery)	
Georgia	Not recognized		
Hawaii	Licensed Midwife	Act 32 signed in April, 2019: regulations being developed	
Idaho	Licensed Midwife	Idaho Board of Midwifery	
Illinois	Not recognized		
Indiana	Certified Direct Entry Midwife	Indiana Professional Licensing Agency (Indiana Certified Direct Entry Midwifery Committee)	
lowa	Not recognized		
Kansas	Not recognized		
Kentucky	Licensed Certified Professional Midwife	Board of Nursing: (Licensed Certified Professional Midwives Advisory Council)	
Louisiana	Licensed Midwife	Louisiana State Board of Medical Examiners	
Maine	Certified Professional Midwife	Board of Complementary Health Providers	
Maryland	Licensed Direct Entry Midwife	Department of Health and Mental Hygiene: Board of Nursing (Direct Entry Mid- wifery Advisory Committee)	
Massachusetts	Bill active		
Michigan	Licensed Midwife	Licensing and Regulatory Affairs: Bureau of Professional Licensing (Board of Licensed Midwifery)	
Minnesota	Licensed Midwife or Licensed Traditional Midwife ^a	Minnesota Board of Medical Practice (Advisory Council on LicensedTraditional Midwifery)	
Mississippi	Not recognized		
Missouri	Not recognized		
Montana	Licensed Midwife	Montana Department of labor and Industry: Alternative Health Care Board	
Nebraska	Not recognized		
Nevada	Not recognized		
New Hampshire	New Hampshire Certified Midwife	Office of Professional Licensure and Certification: New Hampshire Board of Nursing: New Hampshire Midwifery Council	
New Jersey	Licensed Midwife	Division of Consumer Affairs, State Board of Medical Examiners: Midwifery Liaison Committee	
New Mexico	Licensed Midwife	New Mexico Department of Health Public Health Division Maternal Health Pro- gram: Licensed Midwives Advisory Board	
NewYork	Not recognized		
North Carolina	Not recognized		
North Dakota	Not recognized		
Ohio	Not recognized		
Oklahoma	Licensed Midwife	State Commissioner of Health (Advisory Committee on Midwifery)	
Oregon	Licensed Direct Entry Midwife	Board of Direct Entry Midwifery	
Pennsylvania	, Not Regulated		
, Rhode Island	Certified Professional Midwife	Department of Health (Advisory Council on Midwifery)	
South Carolina	Licensed Midwife	South Carolina Department of Health and Environmental Control: Health Licens- ing (Midwifery Advisory Council)	
South Dakota	Certified Professional Midwife	South Dakota Department of Health: Board of Certified Professional Midwives	

Titles and Regulatory Boards for Certified Professional Midwives (continued)		
State	Title	Regulatory Board
Tennessee	Certified Professional Midwife	Tennessee Department of Health: Tennessee Council of Certified Professional Midwifery
Texas	Licensed Midwife	Texas Department of Licensing and Regulation (Texas Midwifery Board: Advisory)
Utah	Licensed Direct-Entry Midwife	Utah Division of Occupational and Professional Licensing: Licensed Direct-Entry Midwife Board
Vermont	Licensed Midwife	Director: Office of Professional Regulation
Virginia	Licensed Midwife	Virginia Board of Medicine (Midwifery Advisory Board)
Washington	Licensed Midwife	Washington State Department of Health: Secretary (Midwifery Advisory Committee)
West Virginia	Not Regulated	
Wisconsin	Licensed Midwife	Wisconsin Department of Safety and Professional Services (Advisory Commit- tee is for investigation and discipline only)
Wyoming	Licensed Midwife	Wyoming Board of Midwifery
District of Columbia	Licensed Midwife	Board of Medicine
Note Data in this table	sourced from state government website	es (Annendix B)

Note. Data in this table sourced from state government websites (Appendix B).

^a Either title may be used.

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Conflicts of interest: None.

APPENDIX A

State References for Certified Nurse-Midwives (CNMs) and Certified Midwives (CMs)

State	CNM Regulation	CM Regulation
Alabama	https://www.abn.alabama.gov/advanced-practice-nursing/#tab-faq-ap	
Alaska	https://www.commerce.alaska.gov/web/portals/5/pub/nur4028.pdf https://www.commerce.alaska.gov/web/Portals/5/pub/NursingStatutes.pdf	
Arizona	https://www.azbn.gov/licenses-and-certifications/advanced-practice-faqs	
Arkansas	https://www.arsbn.org/adv-practice https://www.arsbn.org/Websites/arsbn/images/NURSEPRACTICEACT_2018. February2018.Subchapter2.pdf	
California	https://www.rn.ca.gov/pdfs/meetings/nmc_materials_aug19.pdf https://govt.westlaw.com/calregs/Document/IB0E7CF40D48E11DEBC02831C6D 6C108E?viewType=FullText&originationContext=documenttoc&transitionType =CategoryPageItem&contextData=(sc.Default) https://www.rn.ca.gov/pdfs/regulations/npr-b-32.pdf	
Colorado	https://drive.google.com/file/d/0B-K5DhxXxJZbOHRFaGVIV0xVSEk/view	
Connecticut	https://www.cga.ct.gov/2013/rpt/2013-R-0149.htm https://www.cga.ct.gov/current/pub/chap_377.htm	
Delaware	http://regulations.delaware.gov/AdminCode/title24/1900.shtml	http://delcode.delaware.gov/title24/ c017/sc13/index.shtml
Florida	https://floridasnursing.gov/licensing/	
Georgia	https://www.nursinglicensure.org/np-state/georgia-nurse-practitioner.html	
Hawaii	https://cca.hawaii.gov/pvl/files/2013/08/HRS_457-Nurses0716.pdf	https://www.capitol.hawaii.gov/ session2019/bills/GM1133PDF
ldaho	https://ibol.idaho.gov/IBOL/BoardPage.aspx?Bureau=MID https://legislature.idaho.gov/statutesrules/idstat/Title54/T54CH14/ SECT54-1402/	
Illinois	https://www.idfpr.com/profs/Boards/nursing.asp http://www.ilga.gov/legislation/ilcs/ilcs4.asp?DocName=022500650HArt%2E+5 0&ActID=1312&ChapterID=24&SeqStart=13100000&SeqEnd=14800000	
Indiana	https://www.in.gov/pla/files/Nurse-midwife%20instructions%202017.pdf https://www.in.gov/pla/files/APRN%20instructions%202017-12-18.pdf http://www.iga.in.gov/legislative/laws/2019/ic/titles/025#25-1-1.1-4	
lowa	https://nursing.iowa.gov/practice/ advanced-registered-nurse-practitioner-role-scope https://nursing.iowa.gov/sites/default/files/documents/2019/03/2018_code_ relating_to_ibon_0.pdf	
Kansas	https://ksbn.kansas.gov/wp-content/uploads/NPA/npa.pdf	
Kentucky	https://apps.legislature.ky.gov/law/statutes/statute.aspx?id=48246 https://apps.legislature.ky.gov/law/statutes/statute.aspx?id=48249 https://apps.legislature.ky.gov/law/statutes/statute.aspx?id=49061	
Louisiana	http://legis.la.gov//legis/Law.aspx?d=94502 https://www.lsbn.state.la.us/Portals/1/Documents/Forms/ APRNCertifyingOrganizations.pdf https://www.lsbn.state.la.us/Licensure,Renewals/ AdvancedPracticeRegisteredNurse.aspx	
Maine	https://www.maine.gov/boardofnursing/docs/Chapter_8.pdf http://www.mainemidwives.org/cms-assets/documents/228498-96585.2009- initiative-final-9-09.pdf https://www.maine.gov/boardofnursing/docs/Chapter_8.pdf	https://www.mainelegislature.org/ legis/statutes/32/title32ch113-Bsec0 html
Maryland	https://mbon.maryland.gov/Pages/adv-prac-nurse-midwife-index.aspx https://govt.westlaw.com/mdc/Browse/Home/Maryland/MarylandCodeCourtRu les?guid=N1D93D6109B6D11DB9BCF9DAC28345A2A&originationContext=doc umenttoc&transitionType=Default&contextData=(sc.Default)	

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	rences for Certified Nurse-Midwives (CNMs) and Certified	
State	CNM Regulation	CM Regulation
Massachusetts	https://malegislature.gov/Bills/188/S1081/Senate/Bill/Text https://malegislature.gov/Laws/GeneralLaws/Partl/Titlell/Chapter13/Section14 https://www.mass.gov/service-details/ laws-and-regulations-for-the-board-of-registration-in-nursing https://www.mass.gov/how-to/apply-for-aprn-authorization https://www.mass.gov/orgs/bureau-of-health-professions-licensure	
Michigan	https://www.michigan.gov/documents/lara/Nursing_517651_7.pdf http://www.legislature.mi.gov/(S(0tienlr5iikzvwxaic3fzxic))/mileg.aspx?page=g etObject&objectName=mcl-368-1978-15-172	
Minnesota	https://mn.gov/boards/nursing/advanced-practice/ advanced-practice-registered-nurse-(aprn)-licensure-general-information/ https://mn.gov/boards/nursing/advanced-practice/aprn-advisory-council/	
Mississippi	https://www.msbn.ms.gov/licensure/advanced-practice-registered-nurse https://www.msbn.ms.gov/legal/laws-and-rules	
Missouri	https://pr.mo.gov/nursing-advanced-practice-nurse.asp https://pr.mo.gov/boards/nursing/npa.pdf	
Montana	http://boards.bsd.dli.mt.gov/nur#1?3 http://boards.bsd.dli.mt.gov/nur#8?1 https://leg.mt.gov/bills/mca/title_0370/chapter_0010/part_0010/secti on_0360/0370-0010-0010-0360.html https://leg.mt.gov/bills/mca/title_0370/chapter_0080/part_0040/sections_index. html	
Nebraska	http://dhhs.ne.gov/licensure/Pages/Nurse-Licensing.aspx https://www.nebraska.gov/rules-and-regs/regsearch/Rules/Health_and_ Human_Services_System/Title-172/Chapter-098.pdf http://dhhs.ne.gov/licensure/Documents/Nursing-Advanced%20Practice%20 Registered%20Nurse%20Practice%20Act.pdf http://dhhs.ne.gov/licensure/Documents/Nursing-Certified%20Nurse%20 Midwifery%20Practice%20Act.pdf	
Nevada	https://www.leg.state.nv.us/nrs/NRS-632.html https://nevadanursingboard.org/ advanced-practice-registered-nurse-advisory-committee/	
New Hampshire	https://www.oplc.nh.gov/nursing/documents/aprn-consensus-model.pdf http://www.gencourt.state.nh.us/rsa/html/XXX/326-B/326-B-11.htm http://www.gencourt.state.nh.us/rsa/html/XXX/326-B/326-B-18.htm	
New Jersey	https://www.njconsumeraffairs.gov/mid/Pages/regulations.aspx	https://www.njconsumeraffairs.gov/ mid/Pages/regulations.aspx
New Mexico	http://164.64.110.134/parts/title16/16.011.0002.html	
New York	http://www.op.nysed.gov/title8/ http://www.op.nysed.gov/prof/midwife/article140.htm	http://www.op.nysed.gov/title8/ http://www.op.nysed.gov/prof/ midwife/article140.htm
North Carolina	https://www.ncbon.com/ practice-advanced-practice-registered-nurse-general-information https://www.ncbon.com/practice-certified-nurse-midwife-laws https://www.ncbon.com/practice-certified-nurse-midwife-general-information	
North Dakota Ohio	https://www.legis.nd.gov/cencode/t43c12-1.pdf http://codes.ohio.gov/oac/4723-8 https://nursing.ohio.gov/licensing-certification-ce/rn-aprn-lpn/	
Oklahoma	https://nursing.ok.gov/actwp19.pdf https://www.nursinglicensure.org/np-state/oklahoma-nurse-practitioner.html	http://www.oklegislature.gov/BillInfo. aspx?Bill=sb1823&Session=2000 http://webserver1.lsb.state.ok.us/cf_ pdf/2019-20%20ENR/SB/SB1823%20 ENR.PDF
Oregon	https://www.oregon.gov/OSBN/Pages/laws-rules.aspx https://www.oregon.gov/OSBN/Pages/apply-license.aspx	
Pennsylvania	https://www.legis.state.pa.us/cfdocs/legis/li/uconsCheck. cfm?yr=2007&sessInd=0&act=50	

State Refe	State References for Certified Nurse-Midwives (CNMs) and Certified Midwives (CMs) (continued)		
State	CNM Regulation	CM Regulation	
Rhode Island	http://webserver.rilin.state.ri.us/Statutes/TITLE23/23-13/23-13-9.HTM https://rules.sos.ri.gov/regulations/part/216-40-05-23	http://webserver.rilin.state.ri.us/ Statutes/TITLE23/23-13/23-13-9.HTM https://rules.sos.ri.gov/regulations/ part/216-40-05-23	
South Carolina	https://www.scstatehouse.gov/code/t40c033.php https://IIr.sc.gov/nurse/Online/APRNLEAD.aspx		
South Dakota	https://doh.sd.gov/Boards/nursing/CnmAll.aspx https://doh.sd.gov/boards/nursing/Licensure/CNMLicensureInstructionsApp. pdf https://sdlegislature.gov/statutes/Codified_laws/DisplayStatute. aspx?Statute=36-9A&Type=Statute		
Tennessee	https://publications.tnsosfiles.com/rules/1000/1000-04.20190812.pdf		
Texas	http://www.bne.state.tx.us/practice_nursing_practice_aprninfo.asp		
Utah	https://rules.utah.gov/publicat/code/r156/r156-44a.htm#T1 https://rules.utah. gov/publicat/code/r156/r156-44a.htm#		
Vermont	https://legislature.vermont.gov/statutes/section/26/028/01611		
Virginia	https://law.lis.virginia.gov/admincode/title18/agency90/chapter30/section30/ https://law.lis.virginia.gov/admincode/title18/agency90/chapter40/ https://law.lis.virginia.gov/admincode/title18/agency90/chapter30/section123/		
Washington	https://www.doh.wa.gov/LicensesPermitsandCertificates/NursingCommission/ NurseLicensing/AdvancedRegisteredNursePractitioner https://app.leg.wa.gov/rcw/default.aspx?cite=18.130		
West Virginia	http://wvrnboard.wv.gov/licensing/Pages/default.aspx http://www.wvlegislature.gov/WVCODE/code.cfm?chap=30&art=7#1		
Wisconsin	https://dsps.wi.gov/Pages/Professions/NurseMidwife/Default.aspx		
Wyoming	https://drive.google.com/file/d/1BFTZU5EXncM74Ylacy2xYDRxhpTKz_gS/view		
District of Columbia	https://doh.dc.gov/sites/default/files/dc/sites/doh/publication/attachments/ Nursing_Certified_Nurse_Midwives.pdf		

APPENDIX B

State References for Certified Professional Midwives (CPMs)^a

State	CPM Regulation
Alabama	http://alsbm.org/
	http://alsbm.org/wp-content/uploads/2018/11/Chapter-2-LICENSING-Certified-September-24-2018.pdf
Alaska	https://www.commerce.alaska.gov/web/cbpl/ProfessionalLicensing/Midwives.aspx
Arizona	https://azdhs.gov/licensing/special/midwives/index.php
Arkansas	https://www.healthy.arkansas.gov/images/uploads/pdf/Midwife_Advisory_Board_Information.pdf
California	https://www.mbc.ca.gov/Licensees/Midwives/Midwives_Practice_Act.aspx
	https://www.mbc.ca.gov/Applicants/Midwives/
	https://www.mbc.ca.gov/About_Us/Meetings/Agendas/600/mac-Agenda-20190307.pdf
Colorado	https://www.colorado.gov/pacific/dora/Midwives
	https://www.colorado.gov/pacific/dora/Midwife_Laws
	https://www.sos.state.co.us/CCR/GenerateRulePdf.do?ruleVersionId=8312&fileName=4%20CCR%20739-1
Delaware	https://delcode.delaware.gov/title24/c017/sc13/index.shtml
	http://regulations.delaware.gov/AdminCode/title24/1795.shtml
District of	http://lims.dccouncil.us/Download/42108/B23-0202-Amendment1.pdf
Columbia	
Florida	http://www.floridahealth.gov/licensing-and-regulation/midwifery/index.html
	http://www.floridahealth.gov/licensing-and-regulation/midwifery/council/index.html
Hawaii	https://www.capitol.hawaii.gov/session2019/bills/GM1133PDF
ldaho	https://adminrules.idaho.gov/rules/2012/24/2601.pdf

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State	CPM Regulation	
Indiana	http://iga.in.gov/legislative/laws/2019/ic/titles/025/#25-23.4-1 https://www.in.gov/pla/3523.htm	
Kentucky	https://apps.legislature.ky.gov/recorddocuments/bill/19RS/sb84/bill.pdf	
Louisiana	http://www.lsbme.la.gov/sites/default/files/documents/Laws/2018%20Practice%20Acts/Midwife%20Practice%20 Act%202018.pdf	
Maine	https://www.mainelegislature.org/legis/statutes/32/title32ch113-Bsec0.html	
Maryland	https://law.justia.com/codes/maryland/2018/health-occupations/title-8/subtitle-6c/ https://mbon.maryland.gov/ Documents/ldem-application.pdf	
Michigan	http://www.legislature.mi.gov/(S(nhoes5ejzvxqdxgluafz4vyo))/mileg.aspx?page=getobject&objectname=mcl-368- 1978-15-171.&query=on&highlight=midwifery https://www.michigan.gov/lara/0,4601,7-154-89334_72600_72603_27529_79809,00.html https://www.michigan.gov/documents/lara/Midwife_Licensing_Guide_654132_7.pdf	
Minnesota	https://www.revisor.mn.gov/statutes/cite/147D https://mn.gov/elicense/a-z/?id=1083-230815#/list/appld//filterType//filterValue//page/1/sort//order/	
Montana	https://leg.mt.gov/bills/mca/title_0370/chapter_0270/parts_index.html	
New Hampshire	http://www.gencourt.state.nh.us/rsa/html/XXX/326-D/326-D-mrg.htm https://www.oplc.nh.gov/midwifery/index.htm	
New Jersey	https://www.njconsumeraffairs.gov/mid/Pages/regulations.aspx	
New Mexico	http://164.64.110.134/parts/title16/16.011.0003.html https://nmhealth.org/about/phd/fhb/mwp/	
Oklahoma	http://www.oklegislature.gov/BillInfo.aspx?Bill=sb1823&Session=2000 http://webserver1.lsb.state.ok.us/cf_pdf/2019-20%20ENR/SB/SB1823%20ENR.PDF	
Oregon	https://www.oregon.gov/OHA/PH/HLO/Pages/Board-Direct-Entry-Midwifery-License.aspx https://www.oregon.gov/oha/PH/HLO/Pages/Laws-Rules.aspx	
Rhode Island	http://webserver.rilin.state.ri.us/Statutes/TITLE23/23-13/23-13-9.HTM https://rules.sos.ri.gov/regulations/part/216-40-05-23	
South Carolina	https://www.dhec.sc.gov/sites/default/files/media/document/R.61-24.pdf	
South Dakota	https://doh.sd.gov/boards/midwives/	
Tennessee	https://publications.tnsosfiles.com/rules/1050/1050.htm https://www.tn.gov/health/health-program-areas/health-professional-boards/midwifery-board/midwifery-board/ about.html	
Texas	https://www.tdlr.texas.gov/midwives/mwvlaw.htm#2030521	
Utah	https://le.utah.gov/xcode/Title58/Chapter77/C58-77_1800010118000101.pdf https://le.utah.gov/xcode/Title58/Chapter1/C58-1_1800010118000101.pdf	
Vermont	https://legislature.vermont.gov/statutes/chapter/26/085 https://legislature.vermont.gov/statutes/section/26/085/04185	
Virginia	https://www.dhp.virginia.gov/medicine/advisory/mw/Default.asp	
Washington	https://app.leg.wa.gov/RCW/default.aspx?cite=18.50 https://app.leg.wa.gov/RCW/default.aspx?cite=18.50.150	
Wisconsin	https://docs.legis.wisconsin.gov/statutes/statutes/440/XIII/987	
Wyoming	https://drive.google.com/file/d/0BygO3l2NzH2STDJ 3ZPV2tgWDg/view	

souri, Nebraska, Nevada, New York, North Carolina, North Dakota, Ohio, Pennsylvania, West Virginia.