

Letter of Agreement and Description of Birth Doula Services, Limits and Fees



Prodigious
BIRTH SERVICES

Alexandrite Package

What is a doula?

As doulas, we accompany women in labor to help ensure a safe and satisfying birth experience. We have received education for the doula's role from DONA International, Childbirth International and Madriella and we are Madriella certified birth and postpartum doulas. We see our role as providing support to you through your pregnancy, birth, and immediate postpartum experience. Our goal is that you feel well cared for, that you are supported in your choices, and that you make the transition into motherhood as smoothly and joyfully as possible. We are especially careful that our role is not to take the place of your partner or others you have invited to your birth, but rather to facilitate everyone's optimal involvement.

The following services are included in our fee:

- An initial consultation/interview (no obligation)
- Two on call doulas with a third providing back up
- One prenatal visit, lasting approximately an hour and a half each
- A rebozo for use at home and during labor
- Continuous support during your labor and birth in the hospital or birth center of your choice, or for your homebirth
- Support at home in early labor, if desired and appropriate
- One postpartum home visit, typically during the first week
- Phone/email consultations as needed, up to two weeks postpartum

The following services are offered for an additional fee:

- Childbirth Education, breastfeeding, CPR, and newborn care classes
- A TENS unit for use in early labor
- Additional postpartum visits to help troubleshoot breastfeeding challenges or other issues
- Placenta encapsulation using the traditional Chinese or raw method
- Bengkung belly binding sessions and kits
- Your Birth Experience childbirth education workbook



Choosing a Doula

We will interview with you and your partner, either in phone or in person, to talk about your plans for birth, our role as a doula, and other questions you may have. At that time, we can discuss fees. This meeting does not obligate you to use our services, but if you do select Prodigious Birth Services, then we will want to set up an additional meeting before your labor begins to become familiar with your Birth Plan, including your preferences regarding management options and the use of pain medications. We will also want to know your own best ways of coping with pain and fatigue and how you and your partner foresee working together. We will also inform you of times when either primary doula is unavailable for labor support. We will want to remain in touch by telephone and/or e-mail in the weeks leading up to your birth.

On-call period

Our "on-call" period for a birth is from two weeks before a due date to two weeks after the due date. We generally will only take a client if we plan to be in town and available for this "on-call" period. We will provide you our cell phone numbers. In the rare instance where we need to turn it off for some reason during an on-call period, we try to check it at least every two to three hours for voice mail.

Our Mutual Responsibilities

When You are in Labor

Call us when you think you are in labor, even if you do not yet need us. This gives us time to clear our calendars for the next 24 hours and arrange for child care. We can answer questions and make suggestions over the phone. You and your doula will decide if we should come immediately or wait for further change. We usually need approximately one and half hours to get to you from the time you ask us to come. You and your doula will also decide where to meet – at your home or the hospital/birth center. Except for extraordinary circumstances, we or our back-up will remain with you throughout labor and birth. If you go into labor before 37 weeks, we will attempt to join you as soon as possible or make back-up arrangements as necessary. We may also call our back-up if your labor proceeds longer than 24 hours and we believe it is in your best interest to have a change in birth support.

Post Partum

We usually remain with you for one to two hours after birth, until you are comfortable and your family is ready for quiet time together. We can also help with initiating breast feeding, if necessary. We are available to help with photographs, if desired. We are available for phone contact to answer questions about the birth or your baby for up to six weeks and would like to get together with you within one to two weeks to visit with you and admire your baby, to talk about your birth, and to get feedback from you about support during labor.



What Doulas Do Not Do

As your doula, we are committed to supporting you and your partner to make informed choices regarding your care. We will not make decisions for you nor directly interfere with your health care providers on your behalf. Our role is to provide nonmedicalized care focused on emotional, informational, and physical support, including hands-on comfort measures, during labor and birth.

As doulas, we do not:

- Perform clinical tasks, such as blood pressure or fetal heart checks, vaginal exams, etc. We are there to provide physical comfort, emotional support, and advocacy.
- Make decisions for you. We will help you get the information necessary to make an informed decision. We will also remind you if there is a departure from your Birth Plan.
- Speak to staff instead of you regarding matters where decisions are being made. We will discuss your concerns with you and suggest options, but you or your partner will speak on your behalf to the clinical staff.

Refund policy

A refund of your birth fee will be given under the following circumstances only:

- We miss your birth due to your inability to reach us in labor (entire fee refunded).
- You decide that you have changed your mind regarding our services, for any reason, and you give us notice at least two weeks prior to your due date. This could include an emergency during pregnancy that results in hospitalization or premature birth of your baby. In this case we will refund half of your total birth fee upon request. (Please know, however, that we are willing to support you through any crisis and will complete the package of services, including the postpartum home visit, whenever possible.)

A refund of your birth fee will not be given under the following circumstances:

- We miss your birth because you fail to contact us in time or your labor is precipitous.
- We miss your birth because weather or local security conditions prevent us from safely joining you.
- You change your mind regarding having a doula present, for any reason, within two weeks of your due date.
- Your labor results in a cesarean birth or otherwise departs from your ideal birth plan. Please understand that our presence at your birth is not a guarantee of success for an unmedicated natural birth. We can only support your strengths and help you to make informed decisions; the rest is up to you and your health care providers.



Fees

All checks can be made payable to Prodigious Birth Services LLC and either mailed or turned in at appointments. We can also create invoices and accept Paypal payments.

Our fee for the services described here is:

Retainer fee when you select us as your doulas:

Due at the prenatal appointment:

I/We have read this Letter of Agreement describing the doula's services and agree to its provisions.

Signed

Client's/Mother's Signature

Date signed

Partner's signature

Date signed

Parent's Signature (if client is a minor)

Date signed

Primary Doula's Signature

Date signed

Name of Primary Doulas

Duly Authorized Representatives of Prodigious Birth Services

Name of Back Up Doula

Mutual Release of Liability



Prodigious
BIRTH SERVICES

Client's/Mother's Name

Partner's Name

on one hand, ("Client") and Prodigious Birth Services, on the other hand, ("Prodigious"), (each a "Party" and together the "Parties"), in entering a contract (see the signed Letter of Agreement) for Doula (Labor Support) Services on

Effective Date

The Parties hereby acknowledge that during the performance period of this letter of agreement, Prodigious may provide services to Client in Client's home, a medical facility, and/or a hospital. Client understands that Prodigious has a limited role pursuant to the description of tasks outlined in the above-referenced Letter of Agreement wherever services are provided to Client. Prodigious has not represented to Client that contracting for their services guarantees in any way a risk-free or emergency-free labor and birth experience. Client understands that Prodigious does not make medical or nursing decisions on Client's behalf, to include the decision when to seek medical care at a hospital when labor support services are provided in Client's home. Such decisions are to be made by Client alone. When services are performed in a medical facility, Client acknowledges that Prodigious is not responsible for the performance of clinical tasks to include medical or nursing decisions regarding the inclusion or exclusion of treatments available to Client's baby.

Prodigious is an independent contractor, and neither Prodigious nor any of its employees is an employee, agent, joint venture, or partner of Client. Prodigious shall not have authority to contract for or bind the Client in any manner, nor is otherwise authorized to act for or on behalf of the Client. The Parties, therefore, agree that during performance period of Doula Services, each Party shall assume the risk and expense of their own travel, and each Party accepts sole responsibility for any third party action arising out of or related to that Party's independent conduct, such as third party injury claims arising out of a Party's automobile collision on route to a hospital.

Now, therefore, in consideration of the mutual covenants, conditions and promises herein, Prodigious and Client (both jointly and separately), the Parties each on behalf of themselves and their respective heirs, administrators, personal representatives, executors, officers, employees, successors and assigns, agree to RELEASE AND FOREVER DISCHARGE each other from all damages or causes of actions, either at law or in equity, that each may have or acquire or which may accrue to them because of or arising out



of the Doula Services and any events related thereto. The Parties intend this to be a COMPLETE RELEASE AND DISCHARGE of each other from all liability whatsoever. The Parties have read all statements contained herein and the parties fully realize that they are signing a COMPLETE RELEASE AND BAR to any claims which the party has or believe they have resulting from the letter of agreement for doula services.

Signed

Client's/Mother's Signature

Date signed

Partner's Signature

Date signed

Parent's Signature (if client is a minor)

Date signed

Primary Doula's Signature

Date signed

Name of Primary Doulas

Duly Authorized Representatives of Prodigious Birth Services

Client Confidentiality Release Form



Prodigious
BIRTH SERVICES

Client's/Mother's Name

Partner's Name

Effective Date

gives permission for Prodigious Birth Services, to take notes about me, including personal information I choose to disclose to them, and information regarding the labor and birth of my child. I understand that this information may be used for the purpose of doula certification or recertification and may be shared with a Certification Committee. I realize that this information will be shared with the doula who is providing back up support. I also understand that this information may be anonymously used for statistical purposes, and that my doula may use this information to provide me with a summary of the notes about me for my own personal use.

Signed

Client's/Mother's Signature

Date signed

Partner's Signature

Date signed

Parent's Signature (if client is a minor)

Date signed

Primary Doula's Signature

Date signed

Name of Primary Doulas

Duly Authorized Representatives of Prodigious Birth Services