



College of Nursing

UNIVERSITY OF COLORADO
ANSCHUTZ MEDICAL CAMPUS

Nurse-Midwifery Specialty Program Philosophy

The University of Colorado Nurse-Midwifery Education Program prepares the next generation of midwives to lead and transform the delivery of women's health care for the women of Colorado and the world, through excellence in clinical practice, education and research.

It is our goal to lead the nation in midwifery education, through clinical and teaching excellence, scholarship, leadership and interprofessional endeavors.

We accomplish this objective in the following ways:

- **Education:** We offer coursework accessible to Colorado and the Mountain West. Our clinical faculty practice sites provide quality clinical education, and our program provides students with clinical placements in metro Denver and throughout Colorado. As the program seeks to offer quality education to the Mountain West, we will work with students to locate clinical placements in bordering states.
- **Clinical Practice:** Our midwifery faculty practices serve the women of our community through the provision of quality care, and they serve the students of CU through quality clinical education. The services of the CU midwifery faculty practices are foundational to midwifery education at CU.
- **Research:** CU has been the home to leaders in women's health research, and we strive to contribute to increasing knowledge regarding the safety, quality and cost-effectiveness of midwifery care.

The Nurse-Midwifery Education Program at the University of Colorado seeks to develop the knowledge, skills and attitudes - the head, hands and heart - of a safe, beginning practitioner, shaped by the following values:

- **Caring:** The motivation for midwifery practice and education is to provide care to women and families during childbirth and across the lifespan. We value compassionate and selfless delivery of quality care that puts the woman at the center.
- **Respect:** Careful listening and consideration for the perspectives, opinions and motivations of others, including fellow students, faculty, the women and families we care for and other members of the health care team.

- **Inclusiveness:** We believe that midwifery education and midwifery care does not discriminate, but rather sets a standard for inclusivity, regardless of race, socioeconomic status, gender, country of origin, sexual orientation or religious belief.
- **Cultural responsiveness:** As midwives, we partner with women and families from diverse cultural backgrounds. We seek to educate practitioners who understand the importance of cultural beliefs and practices and align the provision of care with the beliefs of the women to whom we provide care.
- **Creativity and Innovation:** As a small profession that has the potential to significantly affect the provision of health care delivery, we seek to find creative and innovative methods that grow the size of the profession through education. While we seek to educate midwives, it is also important to understand health care delivery business and practice development. Creative and innovative approaches to midwifery education that can increase scale and marketability of the profession in the greater health care system are valued.
- **Intellectual Rigor:** We desire to prepare learners who evaluate and apply research to practice, continually seeking to improve the practice of midwifery and evaluate the effectiveness of current practice by providing breadth and depth of knowledge, resources and learning activities.
- **Inquisitiveness:** We value learning that empowers the learner to seek out information, respectfully critique the information being presented, and develop new research questions.
- **Leadership:** As a profession seeking to establish midwifery-led care as the standard of maternity care in the United States, we desire to develop midwifery leaders. Midwifery leaders seek to uphold the standards of the profession, participate in increasing the number of practicing midwives in Colorado through clinical education and practice development and promote the practice of midwifery in their organizations and communities.
- **Accountability:** As a profession with a large scope of practice and significant public trust, we seek to develop students and beginning midwives who are accountable to the standards of the profession, the women and families served, their leaders, their peers and the community.
- **Citizenship and Community:** We recognize that our program and profession exists within a larger community of Colorado and the world. We seek to be responsible stewards of our time, talent, resources and utilize each to improve the greater community in which we learn and practice.