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Birth Doula Cross Certification Requirements

1. Complete a professional birth doula training program with another trainer/organization (minimum 16 hours). If you completed DONA International training with Patty Brennan in the past, provide the year you completed training and your name at the time (if different).
2. Complete a Breastfeeding Basics class designed for professionals (minimum 3 hours). If you still need to complete this requirement, Lifespan Doulas offers a self-paced online [Breastfeeding Basics for Doulas](#) class for \$100 that fulfills this requirement.
3. Complete the required reading:
 - ✓ *The Birth Partner, 5th Edition*, by Penny Simkin
 - ✓ *Breastfeeding Made Simple*, by Mohrbacher and Kendall-Tackett
 - ✓ *Natural Hospital Birth, 2nd Edition*, by Cynthia Gabriel
 - ✓ [The Doula Business Guide, 4th Edition](#), by Patty Brennan
4. Pass the comprehensive Birth Doula online certification exam with a score of 85% or higher. Access to the exam will be given within 24 hours of paying the \$100 certification application fee. Look for an email from **Thinkific** to access the exam. The exam is an open-book, self-paced exam; you can save your progress as you go and complete the test in multiple sessions if desired. You can take the exam as many times as necessary to achieve a passing grade.
5. Agree to abide by the Lifespan [Doula Scope of Practice](#).
6. [Complete and submit the online Birth Doula Cross Certification Application](#). We will acknowledge receipt of your application within 24 hours of submission. Provided all requirements have been met, we will mail your certificate within two weeks. Your certification has no expiration date. It is a lifetime certification.

Thank you for pursuing certification as a Birth Doula with Lifespan Doulas. We are here to support you in this process. If you have any questions, please contact me. Thank you for your service in support of families during the childbearing year.

Patty Brennan