

Childbirth and Breastfeeding Support Demonstration (CBSD) provider FAQs

What is a demonstration?

A demonstration is a special provision that allows TRICARE to try new methods of delivering healthcare and provide financial relief to a certain population.

What is the purpose of the childbirth and breastfeeding support demonstration?

The Defense Health Agency (DHA) will determine if health outcomes are improved by allowing doulas and lactation consultants or counselors, not otherwise authorized under TRICARE, to provide care. DHA will evaluate the demonstration results and may propose future benefit structure changes including permanent coverage of childbirth and/or breastfeeding support from doulas and lactation consultants or counselors. Visit [HumanaMilitary.com/provider/resources/cbsd](https://www.humana.com/provider/resources/cbsd) for more information.

Who is eligible for the demonstration?

TRICARE Prime and TRICARE Select enrollees (and beneficiaries with Medicare and TRICARE coverage due to dual-eligible family members, See *TOM CH 18, Sec 9.1* for the exclusions) are eligible to participate in the demonstration if they otherwise meet requirements for the demonstration. USFHP and CHCBP are excluded. [TOM CH. 18, SEC 11, 4.1](#)

When does the demonstration begin?

The effective date for the five-year demonstration under TRICARE policy is January 1, 2022; In the TRICARE East Region, the CBSD runs from January 1, 2022 to December 31, 2026 and eligible claims may be filed beginning April 2, 2022. Providers will continue to see updates via our [website](#) and online provider directory.

What services are included under the demo?

The benefit includes breastfeeding counseling from an eligible lactation consultant or counselor as well as Certified Labor Doula (CLD) services for beneficiaries with a gestational age over 20 weeks when under the care of a TRICARE-certified provider. *TOM CH. 18, SEC 11, 4.3-4.4* Lactation services are not covered until the beneficiary has a gestational age of 27 weeks.

Become a TRICARE-certified provider

How do I become a TRICARE-certified provider?

Providers should access our most current certification applications [here](#).

For CLDs, a completed, signed participation agreement is required to remain TRICARE certified and eligible for reimbursement for services on or after January 1, 2025. The participation agreement may be accessed within our certification applications at [HumanaMilitary.com/certify](https://www.humana.com/certify)

What are the requirements to be TRICARE-certified for a lactation consultant?

A lactation consultant shall be:

- At least 18 years old
- Hold a current certification as a lactation consultant by one of the following organizations:
 - International Board of Lactation Consultant Examiners
 - Academy of Lactation Policy and Practice, Inc.
- Licensed by state or local jurisdiction, if offered
- Current CPR certification
- NPI number

TOM CH. 18, SEC 11, 5.1

What are the requirements to be TRICARE-certified for a lactation counselor?

A lactation counselor shall be:

- At least 18 years old
- Hold a current certification as a certified lactation counselor by Academy of Lactation Policy and Practice, Inc.
- Licensed by state or local jurisdiction, if offered
- Current CPR certification
- NPI number

TOM CH. 18, SEC 11, 5.2



What are the requirements to be TRICARE-certified for a Certified Labor Doula (CLD)?

A CLD shall be:

- At least 18 years old
- Attended a minimum of 24 education hours to include:
 - The physiology of labor
 - Labor doula training
 - Antepartum doula training
 - Postpartum doula training
- Attended one or more breastfeeding courses
- Attended one or more childbirth classes
- Within the last three years:
 - Provided continuous in-person childbirth support for at least three childbirths as the primary labor doula supporting the birthing parent, with a minimum of 15 hours over the three childbirths (two of three must have been vaginal birth)
 - Provided antepartum and postpartum support for at least one birth
- Hold a current certification as a CLD, certified doula, or similar perinatal certification (postpartum doula certification by itself does not qualify), obtained within the last three years from one of the following organizations:
 - BirthWorks International
 - Childbirth and Postpartum Professional Association
 - Doulas of North America (DONA) International
 - International Childbirth Education Association
 - toLabor
 - National Black Doulas Association
- Licensed by state or local jurisdiction, if offered.
- Current CPR certification
- NPI number
- Effective January 1, 2025, CLDs must submit a completed, signed Participation Agreement

TOM CH. 18, SEC 11, 5.1

Note: Participation in a qualified, statewide Medicaid program may be recognized in lieu of national board certification for CLDs

What if I do not have an NPI number?

TRICARE requires that providers have an NPI number. Providers can register [here](#).

Rendering services to TRICARE beneficiaries

How are beneficiaries enrolled in the demonstration?

The contractor will automatically enroll beneficiaries in the demonstration when they or their provider (i.e., doula, lactation consultant, or lactation counselor) file a claim for services under the demonstration. The contractor will verify the beneficiary and provider meet eligibility criteria in this section and will record the beneficiary's enrollment by using the appropriate Special Processing Code. *TOM CH. 18, SEC 11, 4.2.*

Are referrals required for services?

While referrals are not required, Prime enrollees need a referral from their Primary Care Manager (PCM) or physician to see a non-network provider. Point-of-service charges may apply without a referral.

Who is eligible for breastfeeding support?

Only the breastfeeding parent is eligible. *TOM. CH. 18 SEC 11, 5.3.1.*

Does breastfeeding support include both individual and group counseling sessions?

Yes. The breastfeeding parent is entitled to a total of six sessions. *TOM. CH. 18 SEC 11, 5.3.1.*

What childbirth support services are covered?

The benefit includes up to a combined total of six visits by a CLD before and after birth (antepartum and postpartum, respectively). The benefit also includes continuous labor support from a CLD during labor and delivery once per birth event. *TOM CH 18 SEC 11 6.2.*

Who is eligible for the six outpatient visits covered under each part of the demonstration?

TRICARE Prime and Select beneficiaries who receive services through Humana Military are eligible to participate in group breastfeeding and attend sessions with a CLD, lactation counselors, and lactation consultants during this demonstration.

To qualify for the childbirth benefit with a CLD, beneficiary must:

- Be at least 20 weeks pregnant
- Be enrolled in TRICARE Prime or Select
- Plan to give birth with a TRICARE-authorized provider
- Plan to give birth in purchased care through Humana Military (not a military hospital or clinic)

To qualify for the breastfeeding benefit with a certified lactation counselor, consultant, or group breastfeeding, beneficiary must:

- Be at least 27 weeks pregnant
- Be enrolled in TRICARE Prime or Select
- Plan to receive breastfeeding counseling through Humana Military

Claims and reimbursement

What are the CPT codes for individual lactation counseling sessions?

The contractor shall reimburse individual lactation counseling sessions under the existing TRICARE breastfeeding support benefit, at the non-physician, non-facility CHAMPUS Maximum Allowable Charge (CMAC) under the existing Current Procedural Terminology (CPT) codes 99401 to 99404 (see *TPM, Chapter 8, Section 2.6*) TOM CH 18 SEC 11 5.4.1.

What are the CPT codes for group lactation counseling sessions?

- CPT code 99411 for 30 minutes of lactation counseling or education in a group setting
- CPT code 99412 for 60 minutes of lactation counseling or education in a group setting

TOM CH 18 SEC 11 5.4.2.

What are the CPT codes for childbirth services?

CPT codes are as follows:

- Antepartum and postpartum support visits 99509
- Continuous labor support 59899

TOM CH 18 SEC 11 6.3.3-6.3.4.

How are antepartum/postpartum visits reimbursed for CLDs?

The six authorized antepartum or postpartum visits will be reimbursed at a rate of \$46.00 per visit (for calendar year (CY) 2022), locality adjusted and updated annually. These visits will be untimed and no more than one visit will be eligible for reimbursement per day.

How is continuous labor support reimbursed for CLDs?

Continuous labor support will be reimbursed at a national rate of 15 times the rate of the antepartum/postpartum visit rate, or \$690.00 for CY 2022, locality adjusted and updated annually.

How are breastfeeding support services reimbursed?

- Individual: Reimbursed under the existing TRICARE breastfeeding support benefit, at the non-physician, non-facility CHAMPUS Maximum Allowable Charge (CMAC) under the existing Current Procedural Terminology (CPT) codes 99401 to 99404 (see *TPM, Chapter 8, Section 2.6*). 5.4.2.
- Group: Reimbursed under the existing TRICARE breastfeeding support benefit, at the non-physician, non-facility CHAMPUS Maximum Allowable Charge (CMAC) under the existing CPT codes 99411 or 99412.

When will Humana Military begin processing claims?

We will start processing claims on April 2, 2022.

Helpful tips for Certified Labor Doula (CLD) when filing claims online

As a reminder, gestational age must be over 20 weeks to qualify for the demonstration and this must be noted on the claim to ensure proper reimbursement/claims processing.

Provider requirements on the doula professional claim include:

- Antepartum and postpartum support visits 99509
- Continuous labor support 59899
- Certified Labor Doula (CLD) taxonomy 374J0000X and Gestational dx (any pointer)
- Rendering provider's name and address
- Telemedicine/Telehealth services are allowed for all except 59899 code, and must include the correct place of service and the correct modifier.

Are travel fees reimbursable under the CBSD?

No. Providers cannot bill for travel.

Can I bill additional charges for long or challenging births, non-singleton births (two continuous labor support charges for twins) or false labor?

No, CLDs will not receive reimbursement other than those allowable in Paragraph 6.3. These exclusions are specified in *TOM Chapter 18, Section 11, Paragraph 9.3*.

Are breastfeeding support and childbirth support covered services on consecutive days allowable?

Yes. TRICARE policy does not specify a time period between visits. See the breastfeeding support covered services in *TOM Paragraph 5.3* and childbirth support covered services in *Paragraph 6.2*.

Can a beneficiary receive childbirth services via telemedicine under the CBSD?

Continuous labor support (CPT 59899 - maternity care procedure) cannot be provided via telemedicine/telehealth; however, antepartum and postpartum visits (CPT 99509 - home visit day life activity) are allowed to be delivered through telemedicine/telehealth.

Note: Virtual doula sessions are no longer covered.

Note: This document will be updated as we receive additional information