

2017-2018 CATALOG



FSTM

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FSTM LICENSURE AND CERTIFICATION

- **Florida Commission for Independent Education (CIE)**

325 West Gaines St., Suite 1414
Tallahassee, FL 32399-0400
www.fldoe.org/cie/

The Florida School of Traditional Midwifery's Three Year Direct Entry Midwifery program and Licensure by Endorsement program are licensed by the Florida Commission for Independent Education, License Number 1657. Please use the contact information above for additional information regarding the institution.

- **The Midwifery Education Accreditation Council (MEAC)**

850 Mt. Pleasant Ave
Ann Arbor, MI 48103
www.meacschools.org

The Florida School of Traditional Midwifery is proud to be a MEAC accredited institution. MEAC accreditation is designed to strengthen educational curricula and preserve the many innovative programs designed by and for midwives. In order to be a MEAC accredited institution, our school must meet rigorous requirements for demonstrated student success, including: being fiscally sound; having sufficient faculty, staff, and facility resources; and having a viable curriculum. MEAC is recognized by the US Department of Education.

- **Florida Council of Licensed Midwifery**

4052 Bald Cypress Way, Bin #C06
Tallahassee, FL 32399-3256
www.floridahealth.gov/

In Florida, Licensed Midwives (LM) provide primary maternity care for women with low-risk pregnancies, offering complete prenatal, delivery and postpartum care. Licensed Midwives may work to meet their communities' needs in a variety of settings, including home birth practices, birth centers, and community health clinics. They are also eligible to be Medicaid providers and receive insurance reimbursement. Licensed Midwives are experts in low-risk, normal childbirth.

Licensed Midwives are regulated by the Florida Department of Health, Council of Licensed Midwifery. The Florida School of Traditional Midwifery is certified by this council to offer midwifery training.

Florida Licensed Midwives practice under Florida Statute 467. The protocols for Licensed Midwives in Florida are contained within the Licensed Midwifery Rules, F.A.C. 64B24.

- **National Certification for Midwives North American Registry of Midwives (NARM)**

5257 Rosestone Dr.

Lilburn, GA 30047

www.narm.org

The direct-entry program at the Florida School of Traditional Midwifery qualifies the student for national certification as a Certified Professional Midwife (CPM). This certificate allows the graduate to practice as a midwife in states outside of Florida that recognize CPM certification. Individual state legislation regarding midwifery practice varies depending on the state, and it is each midwife's responsibility to investigate, acknowledge, and practice under those laws accordingly.

OUR MISSION

The mission of the Florida School of Traditional Midwifery is to offer the finest in Direct-Entry Midwifery education in an environment that encourages students to reach their full potential. We believe that it is our responsibility to promote awareness of and access to midwifery services. Our graduates are community-builders who use midwifery as their tool.

OUR VISION

We believe that everyone should have access to the maternity care provider of their choice and to the resources necessary to make an informed decision.

INTRODUCTION

The Florida School of Traditional Midwifery is committed to providing quality educational programs for those who share our desire to provide the best care for childbearing people and their families. Graduates of our midwifery program are eligible to become Florida Licensed Midwives (LM) and Certified Professional Midwives (CPM).

FSTM is a not-for-profit 501(c)(3) corporation organized under Florida law and licensed by the Florida Commission for Independent Education (CIE). We are also accredited by the Midwifery Education and Accreditation Council (MEAC). We offer direct-entry midwifery educational programs, which are based on combining the art of traditional midwifery with current knowledge of medical science and evidence-based practice.

Our students' clinical experiences take place in a variety of settings located throughout Florida, including: home birth practices, community-based birth centers, clinics, and hospitals. Our goal is to educate and prepare students to become skilled, autonomous care providers who will be available to serve people and families in their communities.

Upon graduation, midwifery students will receive a diploma in direct-entry midwifery from FSTM and are eligible to sit for the state licensed midwifery examination. The State of Florida utilizes the North American Registry of Midwives (NARM) national examination for this purpose. Upon passing this exam and obtaining licensure, graduates are eligible to practice as Licensed Midwives (LM) in Florida. They are also eligible to become nationally certified through NARM as Certified Professional Midwives (CPM).

FSTM ADMINISTRATION

Susan Nelson - Executive Director

Before taking the helm as Executive Director, Susan served on the Board of Directors for FSTM for twelve years, ten of those as Chair. She also spent 8 years in sales as a Regional Account Manager, most recently for Airbus DS Communications, an international firm specializing in public safety IT systems. Prior to that she held the position of Communications Bureau Chief for eleven years at Alachua County Fire Rescue, and manager of marketing and programs for an international environmental nonprofit for five years before that. Susan has a Bachelor's degree in organizational communication from the University of Colorado and is a Florida State University Certified Public Manager. Susan has three daughters, all born into the hands of licensed midwives, and as a result, has been an advocate of and activist for midwifery, the midwives model of care, and breastfeeding promotion in the North Florida area for almost three decades. She is married and lives in Gainesville, and enjoys spending time, mostly outdoors, with friends and family, including her two grandsons, also born into the hands of midwives. Email - snelson@midwiferyschool.org

Amanda Mann, LM – Associate Director

Amanda Mann comes to FSTM with more than 15 years' experience as a teacher, school administrator, and most importantly, a Licensed Midwife. She also holds a bachelor's degree in English and a masters degree in creative writing. Amanda fervently believes that birth is an essential life process that has the potential to transform, inspire, and engage. She believes that midwifery is an essential intersection between passion and the world's greatest need. Amanda is married with four boys, and enjoys reading and practicing at her local midwifery clinic.

Michele Applegarth - Business Manager

Michele has called Gainesville her home since graduating from the University of Florida with a Bachelor's degree in Psychology. After gaining managerial skills working in nation-wide retail professions, she expanded her bookkeeping and finance abilities as business manager for a local Gainesville manufacturer. Michele has always had a strong passion for women's education and women's reproductive freedom. Separate from work, Michele enjoys camping, hiking, and traveling, and being a full-time cat mom. Email - michele@midwiferyschool.org

Erica Bales - Academic Director

Erica Bales, B.A. is a graduate of the University of Florida and has lived in Gainesville for ten years. She is a DONA-certified doula who has a passion for women's health and the

midwifery model of care. In addition to serving FSTM students as the Academic Director, Erica runs a small web development business with her husband. When she isn't working, she enjoys reading, cooking and spending time with friends, family and her pets. Email - erica@midwiferyschool.org

Kerri Audette - Clinical Director

Kerri Audette, LM, CPM, is a licensed midwife and graduate of Florida School of Traditional Midwifery. She is a co-owner and midwife with Gainesville Midwives, her home birth practice. Kerri was inspired to pursue work in women's health as a founding member of the Gainesville Roller Rebels, a local women's roller derby league. That experience led her to realize the power and potential that sisterhood can create, and she has been attending births in North Central Florida and instructing childbirth education for the last four years. She also holds a Bachelors of Design from the University of Florida School of Architecture. Kerri is a Gainesville native and birthed her own child at home with midwives in 2013. Email - kaudette@midwiferyschol.org

Rachel Hargy – Director of Financial Aid & Regulatory Compliance

Rachel Hargy, B.A. comes to FSTM from a health care education background. She brings her passion for a holistic approach to healthcare. Her previous work experience includes Santa Fe College's Health IT Workforce Training Program and the University of Florida's College of Medicine. Rachel is a Philadelphia native who's lived in Gainesville since 2009. She enjoys her free time with her son and fiancé; being active, reading, and entertaining friends at home. Email - rachel@midwiferyschool.org

FSTM FACULTY

• **Core Faculty**

Lori Scott, M.D., R.N., B.S.N.

Lori received her Bachelor's in Nursing from Southern Adventist University, and her Doctor of Medicine from the University of South Carolina. She has experience in teaching Anatomy and Physiology and Human Nutrition at Florida Gateway College and Santa Fe College in the Nursing and Allied Health programs. She has worked in nursing in various hospitals throughout the south. Lori has one child, a son. At FSTM she teaches the medical science courses: Anatomy and Physiology I and II, Reproductive Anatomy and Physiology, Pharmacology, Microbiology for Midwives and Gynecology.

Jessica Stevenson, L.M., C.P.M.

Jessica was born at home and grew up hearing her parents talk appreciatively about the care they received from midwives. It was the tenderness of their accounts that led Jessica to pursue a career in midwifery. Jessica graduated from the Florida School of Traditional Midwifery in 2003. As a student, Jessica was able to intern in a maternity clinic in Cartagena, Colombia, which provided her with both high-risk experience and a stronger understanding, cross-culturally of the birth experience. She worked at FSTM as administrative assistant from 2000-2003. After 9 years of practicing as a midwife, Jessica gave birth to her son at home in 2012. She returned as an instructor in 2014. At FSTM,

Jessica teaches the core midwifery courses: Antepartum, Intrapartum, and Postpartum, as well as Diagnostic Testing, Midwifery History, Law and Rule, and Obstetric Complications.

Amy Vaknin, MEd/EdS

Amy is a graduate of the University of Florida's Counselor Education program, and has lived in Gainesville for over 14 years. Currently working as a School Counselor in a high school setting, Amy is passionate about youth advocacy. Her passions also extend to women advocacy, serving as a DONA-certified doula in the community. In 2012, Amy became a mama to her daughter, and two short years later, got pregnant with spontaneous triplets! Married to a musician, Amy now has a dynamic family of six. In her spare time, she enjoys yoga, journaling, photography, wagon rides, and cloud-watching with her family. She strives to live by the motto, "Life is too important to be taken so seriously!" At FSTM, Amy teaches Interpersonal Communication, Professional Communication, Psychology for Midwives and Human Sexuality for Midwives.

• **Adjunct Faculty**

Andrea (Andie) Reece, L.M., C.P.M.

Andie graduated from FSTM in January of 2016 and has been working in a busy birth center while building her own practice. Andrea believes a solid educational foundation is a key component to being a competent midwife. She loves teaching and is both passionate and excited about educating new midwives. At FSTM, Andie teaches Healthcare Skills I and II.

Gaia Zori M.P.H.

Gaia Zori is a Certified Health Education Specialist and holds a B.H.S. from the University of Florida and a Master's of Public Health from SUNY Albany in upstate New York. Gaia has been a long-time advocate for women's health, reproductive health and the elimination of health disparities with experiences ranging from teaching high school in inner-city Memphis to studying as an epidemiology fellow in maternal and child health in New Orleans and, most recently, promoting safe and responsible sexual decision making as a health educator for Planned Parenthood. When she's not at FSTM, Gaia enjoys surfing and spending as much time on the water as she can, spending time with her family, reading for her book club, and trying to learn to speak Danish. At FSTM, Gaia teaches Research and Public Health and Human Sexuality.

Kaleen Richards, C.N.M.

Kaleen's midwifery journey began after reading *Spiritual Midwifery* by Ina May Gaskin in college. She attended Frontier Nursing University and is now a CNM in Florida and owner of Tree of Life Birth and Gynecology Center. She feels my passion is divinely guided and is grateful for the educational path she has taken, which allows me to function as a health care provider in home birth, birth center, and hospital. She believes she is a protector of women during their birth process and honor choice for all. She has three amazing sons, two of whom were born at home with a local midwife. At FSTM, Kaleen teaches Suturing for Midwives.

Kerri Audette, L.M., C.P.M.

Kerri Audette, LM, CPM, is a licensed midwife and graduate of Florida School of Traditional Midwifery. She is a co-owner and midwife with Gainesville Midwives, her home birth practice. Kerri was inspired to pursue work in women's health as a founding member of the Gainesville Roller Rebels, a local women's roller derby league. That experience led her to realize the power and potential that sisterhood can create, and she has been attending births in North Central Florida and instructing childbirth education for the last four years. She also holds a Bachelors of Design from the University of Florida School of Architecture. Kerri is a Gainesville native and birthed her own child at home with midwives in 2013. At FSTM, Kerri teaches Clinical Lab, Clinical Skills Practicum Lab, NARM Review and Midwifery Practicums I – IV.

Sorell Pagliara, L.M.

Sorell is a Florida Licensed Midwife and a Certified Professional Midwife. She is so excited to be providing unique birth options to Gainesville families. Her introduction to midwifery began with the home births of her younger sisters. Seeing how strong the midwife-family bond could be led her to seek out the care of midwives during her own pregnancies and both of her babes were born with the care of midwives. In 2012, she began formal midwifery education and attending home births. Over the last four years she has been witness to many different birth experiences including home birth, birth center births, water births, hospital births, and cesarean births. Becoming a midwife has allowed her to help families realize their strengths and create their own special birth stories. At FSTM, Sorell teaches Midwifery Practicums I – IV.

Susan Marynowski, M.S.

Susan Marynowski (M.S.) grew up in north Florida. She holds degrees from UF in fine arts and wildlife ecology, with an emphasis in public education. Susan has a passionate interest in native plants and has been a perpetual student of the patterns of plants, people, and healing for over 20 years. She is a member of the American Herbalists Guild and has a small herbal practice in Gainesville. Susan has studied and mentored with Tieraona LowDog, Susun Weed, David Winston, Patricia Howell, Thomas Easley, and other esteemed herbalists. Susan is a land conservation and sustainability advocate and a volunteer steward at a natural burial ground. She hopes to live (and die) in a way that has less impact on the Earth that sustains us all. At FSTM, Susan teaches Nutrition for the Childbearing Year and Herb Workshop.

FSTM BOARD OF DIRECTORS

The Florida School of Traditional Midwifery is a registered 501(c)(3) in Florida. FSTM is governed by a board of directors and headed by an Executive Director. The Executive Director is Susan Nelson.

Jane Houston, D.N.P, C.N.M., Chairperson was born in Scotland, and has delivered over 2000 babies on 4 continents. She has lived and worked in Musami, Zimbabwe and Wellington, New Zealand before coming to the USA in 1996 to continue her midwifery journey. Jane is the Clinical Program Director at Frontier Nursing University.

Heart Phoenix, Vice Chairperson, is a social justice, environmental and peace activist who considers the birthing her five beautiful children naturally to be one of her greatest contributions. Throughout the country, she is an inspirational speaker and facilitator of personal and spiritual growth workshops and trainings. She believes that supporting women before, during and after the birth process empowers them and is an essential element in developing a more peaceful planet. She is the co-founder of the River Phoenix Center for Peacebuilding and has held several administrative positions at FSTM, Including Executive Director.

Kym Hodges, C.C.C.E., C.L.D., I.C.C.E, Secretary has been teaching and supporting women since 1994. She is the owner of Traditions of Love Childbirth Services, LLC where she provides private childbirth education, sex education, and labor doula services. She is also a professional speaker on these subjects and a national and international certified childbirth educator and labor doula trainer for CAPPA, (where she has been a member of since 2000 and is currently the Executive Director of Marketing).

Sylvia Paluzzi is the founder and Director of Morning Meadow Preschool and Kindergarten and Heart Pine Elementary and Middle School. She is an advocate for the education of young children in an imaginative and respectful manner. Sylvia is director of a marionette troupe, performing marionette shows for children in classrooms, festivals and hospitals settings. Sylvia was also the local president of Friends of the Midwives for ten years, an organization founded on the local level by Sylvia and the late founder of FSTM, Jana Borino. She has 3 sons, all born in the loving care of licensed midwives.

Tamara Taitt, M.A., L.M.F.T. is a licensed marriage and family therapist who trained as a midwife in the Miami Dade College program before it closed, Tamara has a varied background in women's reproductive health activism and has been working in maternal, infant and child health for the last decade. Tamara has a deep interest in the sustainability of the midwifery profession and politics as it relates to birth. She was the Southeast representative on the board of the Midwives Alliance of North America for seven years. Tamara currently serves on the board of the Foundation for the Advancement of Midwifery and is the co-owner/founder of a group of birth-related businesses in Miami, including: The Gathering Place, a pregnancy and parenting resource center; Peapod Essentials, a natural parenting store; Blue Mountain Midwives, a home birth practice and non-profit Project Motherpath.

MaryAnn Smith, C.N.M. has been a midwife for nearly 35 years and was working in Ocala for my first job. I was drawn to Gainesville because of The Birth Center of Gainesville and the lay (not licensed, yet) midwifery presence. Since 1985, after becoming part of The Birth Center, I have worked with licensed midwives as preceptor, co worker, and legislative worker. I was on the Florida Council of Licensed Midwives for many years-for initial and ongoing legislation. I have been involved with FSTM from its beginnings in various capacities....preceptor, consultant, teacher, landlord, friend. Now that I am retired (other than various volunteer jobs), I look forward to working with FSTM again and to further promote midwifery in the state of Florida and beyond.

ABOUT OUR PROGRAMS

The Florida School of Traditional Midwifery curriculum was initially developed in the 1990's by a committee comprised of licensed midwives, certified nurse midwives, midwives trained through apprenticeship, consumers, and childbirth educators. Input was also received from a variety of midwifery educators across the country.

The curriculum adheres to the core competencies developed by both the Midwives Alliance of North America (MANA) and the American College of Nurse Midwives (ACNM), and is consistent with the curriculum framework developed by the Commission for Independent Education and the requirements of Florida law.

The FSTM programs are designed and taught within the framework of the Midwives Model of Care, with the belief that it is essential for experienced midwives to be intimately involved with the education of future midwives. Sharing the art of midwifery is one of the most vital components of a student's education.

In addition to technical skills and academic knowledge, FSTM's program cultivates the essential qualities of nurturing, intuition, compassion and strength. FSTM has learned from and modeled its program after the experiences of generations of midwives. We have developed a special environment that nurtures students as they become part of the next generation of midwives.

FSTM faculty is comprised of licensed midwives, certified nurse midwives, PhDs, medical doctors, registered nurses, and other professionals. They are highly qualified in their fields and are uniquely motivated to share their expertise with the midwifery community.

Our academic environment is designed with the adult learner in mind. Our process is both dynamic and interactive, involving tutorials, discussions and lectures. Research is facilitated and encouraged; opinions are shared and insights are validated.

Clinical experience is concurrent with academic coursework, giving relevance to factual material and evidence-based practice. We feel it is very important that students experience all types of practice settings, so each midwifery student will rotate through a variety of clinical sites during the training program.

Our clinical sites are located throughout Florida and provide students with experience in homebirth practices, birth centers, clinics and observation in hospitals. Preceptors include Florida licensed midwives, certified nurse midwives, registered nurses and physicians who are licensed in Florida. Every care is taken to place students in clinical sites as close to their home as possible; however, travel to clinical sites may be required.

PROGRAMS OFFERED

• Direct-Entry Midwifery Program

This program is designed to meet the educational needs of students who come to the Florida School of Traditional Midwifery with no prior midwifery or nursing education.

This Direct-Entry Program provides students with the academic and clinical learning experiences required for graduation pursuant to Florida's Midwifery Practice Act, Florida Administrative Code (FAC) 64B24, and requirements for national certification set by NARM.

The midwifery curriculum is 91 semester credits, totaling 2,505 clock hours of instruction, and is designed to take three years to complete. Students should be aware that the program has a lock-step course schedule for each semester, which means that enrollment each semester is contingent on successful completion of each preceding semester. Therefore, in many cases, students who fail courses may have to withdraw from the program and re-enroll in one year when the courses are taught again.

The clinical requirements for completing the Direct-Entry Midwifery Program are defined by Chapter 467 Florida Statutes, FAC 64B24, NARM, and MEAC, and are subject to change at any time. Please refer to the clinical description section of this catalog for complete clinical requirements.

Upon graduation, midwifery students receive a diploma from FSTM and are eligible to sit for the NARM exam.

Upon passing the NARM exam, graduates are eligible to become Florida Licensed Midwives (LM) and Certified Professional Midwives (CPM).

• Licensure By Endorsement (LBE) Program

The Licensure by Endorsement Program is designed to prepare maternity care providers (usually midwives) credentialed in other states or other countries for licensure as Florida Licensed Midwives. Coursework is both academic and clinical, with a strong emphasis on the laws and rules that govern practice as a Florida Licensed Midwife. Applicants are required to have their credentials and midwifery education reviewed and approved by the state of Florida and Council of Licensed Midwifery prior to enrolling in the program. Please contact FSTM for more information.

Students completing the program receive a diploma from FSTM, and are prepared to sit for the NARM exam. Upon passing the NARM exam and completing the endorsement program, the graduate may file for licensure as a Florida Licensed Midwife and as a Certified Professional Midwife. The clinical requirements for completing the Florida Licensure by Endorsement Program are defined by Chapter 467 Florida Statutes and FAC 64B24 and meet criteria for CPM certification by NARM. Requirements are subject to change at any time per regulatory agencies. Please refer to the clinical description section of this catalog for complete clinical requirements and contact the school for specific details.

FSTM DIRECT-ENTRY PROGRAM CURRICULUM

Year 1, Term 1

1101	Anatomy & Physiology I	3
1101L	Anatomy & Physiology I Lab	1
1103	Healthcare Skills I	1
1103L	Healthcare Skills I Lab	1
1109	Research and Public Health	2
1108	Cultural Competency	1
1110	Midwifery History, Law & Rule	2
Total Credits		11

Year 1, Term 2

1201	Anatomy & Physiology II	3
1201L	Anatomy & Physiology II Lab	1
1203	Healthcare Skills II	2
1203L	Healthcare Skills II Lab	1
2201	Microbiology for Midwives	1
2201L	Microbiology for Midwives Lab	1
2105	Psychology for Midwives	2
1200CL	Clinical Lab	1
Total Credits		12

Year 1, Term 3

1301	Reproductive Anatomy & Physiology	3
1301L	Reproductive Anatomy & Physiology Lab	1
2303	Pharmacology	2
1306	Interpersonal Communication	1
2101	Nutrition for the Childbearing Year	2
1204	Human Sexuality for Midwives	2
1300CL	Clinical Lab	1
Total Credits		12

Year 1 Total Credits 35

Year 2, Term 1

1303	Antepartum	4
1305	Diagnostic Testing	1
2107	Midwifery Practicum I	2
3101	Gynecology	2
2100CL	Clinical Lab	3
Total Credits		12

Year 2, Term 2

2103	Intrapartum	4
2104	Fetal Monitoring	1
2207	Midwifery Practicum II	2
2106	Professional Communication	1
2205	Herb Workshop	1
2200CL	Clinical Lab	3
Total Credits		12

Year 2, Term 3

2203	Postpartum	3
2206	Newborn	2
2305	Midwifery Practicum III	2
1205	Breastfeeding	1
2204	Suturing for Midwives	1
2300CL	Clinical Lab	3
Total Credits		12

Year 2 Total Credits 36

Year 3, Term 1

3106	Obstetric Complications	1
3104	Collaborative Management	1
3105	Midwifery Practicum IV	1
3100CL	Clinical Lab	4
Total Credits		7

Year 3, Term 2

3204	Issues in Professional Midwifery	1
3201	Establishing & Maintaining a Practice	2
3200CL	Clinical Lab	4
Total Credits		7

Year 3, Term 3

3103	NARM Review	1
3202L	Clinical Skills Practicum Lab	1
3300CL	Clinical Lab	4
Total Credits		6

Year 3 Total Credits 20

Clinical Requirements

<i>Prenatal Exams</i>	<i>Postpartum Exams</i>
Assist - 25	Assist - 10
Primary - 55	Primary - 40

<i>Initial Prenatal Exams</i>	<i>Newborn Exams</i>
Assist - 3	Assist - 20
Primary - 20	Primary - 30

<i>Birth Observations</i>	<i>Continuity of Care</i>
Silent Observe - 10	Partial - 10
Assist - 20	Full - 5

<i>Birth Managements</i>	<i>Suturing</i>
Primary - 50	5

Total Program Credits: 91

Cost per Credit: \$375.00
Total Cost of Credits: \$34,125.00

*All program credits, clock hours, tuition and fees are subject to change. Average anticipated tuition increase is 4% per academic year

**The requirements meet or exceed all mandates as defined by the Chapter 467 Florida Statutes, MEAC and NARM and are subject to change at any time

***After Year 3 Term 3, students may register for clinical lab using course codes 4100CL, 4200CL and 4300CL until all clinical requirements are met

****Course numbers are based on the year and term the course is offered, followed by a two-number course code.

GENERAL PROGRAM REQUIREMENTS

Total Program Contact Hours: 2505

Theory Credit – 15:1
Theory Lab Credit – 30:1
Clinical Lab Credit – 60:1

Actual Contact Hours

Theory – 915
Theory Lab – 210
Clinical Lab – 1380

LICENSURE BY ENDORSEMENT CURRICULUM

The Florida Licensure by Endorsement (LBE) program is designed to enable midwives from other states or other countries for licensure as Florida Licensed Midwives. This program focuses on the art of Home and Birth Center Maternity care, equipping students with the knowledge and skills necessary to be safe, independent practitioners. Course work is both academic and clinical, with a strong emphasis on the laws and rules that govern practice as a Florida Licensed Midwife.

- Applicants are required to have their credentials and midwifery education reviewed an independent credentialing agency approved by the Department of Health prior to applying to the program. Currently approved are Josef A. Silny and International Credentialing Agency.
- Students completing the program receive a Diploma from FSTM and are prepared to sit for the Florida Licensing Exam/North American Registry of Midwives (NARM) exam.
- Upon passing the NARM exam and completing the endorsement program, the graduate may file for licensure as a Florida Licensed Midwife.

Sample LBE Curriculum*

Courses		Semester Credits
1107	FL Law and Rule	1
4101	Midwifery Core	5
4102	Preparation for Practice	1
4103	Clinical Practicum for LBE	1
4104	Cultural Competency for FL Midwives	1
4105CL	Clinical Lab	6
<hr/>		
Total		15

Timeframe for Completion

Most students complete this program 4-12 months of learning. However, some students will need more time to complete clinical requirements. The need for more time to complete clinical requirements depends on preceptor availability, out-of-hospital birth rates in the student's area and the student's personal choices and circumstances throughout the program.

Costs of LBE Program

A non-refundable application fee of \$75.00 is paid when the application is submitted. An enrollment fee of \$200 will be required at the time of enrollment in a program of study. The Licensure by Endorsement Program includes 15 credit hours at \$375.00 per credit hour. There is a student professional liability insurance cost of \$670.00 per year and a one-time FSTM technology fee of \$155.00.

Students are responsible for the purchase of course supplies, books, and travel, as well as room and board while at clinical sites. Tuition and fees are due at the time of registration unless a payment plan has been arranged with the Business Manager. Fees are subject to change.

Clinical Requirements for Completion

- 10 supervised prenatal visits
- 10 supervised births as primary midwife in an out-of-hospital setting

ACADEMIC CALENDAR

Fall 2017 Term	
July 17-21	Registration for Fall
August 24	Semester Begins
September 4	School Holiday—Labor Day
August 31	Drop/Add Ends
October 26	Last Day to Withdraw and Receive a W
November 10	School Holiday—Veteran's Day
November 20-24	Fall Break
December 11	Last Day of Fall Term
Spring 2018 Term	

November 13-17	Registration for Spring
December 28	Semester Begins
January 1	School Holiday—New Year's Day
January 15	School Holiday—Dr. Martin Luther King, Jr. Day
January 4	Drop/Add Ends
February 19	School Holiday—President's Day
March 1	Last Day to Withdraw and Receive a W
March 5-9	Spring Break
April 16	Last Day of Spring Term
Summer 2018 Term	
March 19-23	Registration for Summer
April 26	Semester Begins
May 3	Drop/Add Ends
May 28	School Holiday—Memorial Day
June 28	Last Day to Withdraw and Receive a W
July 2-6	Summer Break
August 13	Last Day of Summer Term
Fall 2018 Term	
July 9-13	Registration for Fall Term
August 23	Semester Begins
August 30	Drop/Add Ends
September 3	School Holiday—Labor Day
October 25	Last Day to Withdraw and Receive a W
November 12	School Holiday—Veteran's Day
November 19-November 23	Fall Break
December 10	Last Day of Fall Term
Spring 2019 Term	

November 12-16	Registration for Spring Term
December 27	Semester Begins
January 1	School Holiday—New Year's Day
January 3	Drop/Add Ends
January 21	School Holiday – Martin Luther King Jr. Day
February 18	School Holiday—President's Day
February 25-March 1	Spring Break
March 5	Last Day to Withdraw and Receive a W
April 15	Last Day of Spring Term
Summer 2019 Term	
March 11-15	Registration for Summer Term
April 25	Semester Begins
May 2	Drop/Add Ends
May 27	School Holiday—Memorial Day
June 27	Last Day to Withdraw and Receive a W
July 1-5	Summer Break
August 12	Last Day of Summer Term
Fall 2019 Term	
July 8-12	Registration for Fall Term
August 22	Semester Begins
August 29	Drop/Add Ends
September 2	School Holiday—Labor Day
October 24	Last Day to Withdraw and Receive a W
November 11	School Holiday—Veteran's Day
November 25-November 29	Fall Break
December 9	Last Day of Fall Term
Spring 2020 Term	
November 11-15	Registration for Spring Term

December 26	Semester Begins
January 1	School Holiday—New Year's Day
January 2	Drop/Add Ends
January 20	School Holiday—Dr. Martin Luther King Jr. Day
February 17	School Holiday—President's Day
February 27	Last Day to Withdraw and Receive a W
March 9-13	Spring Break
April 13	Last Day of Spring Term
Summer 2020 Term	
March 9-13	Registration for Summer Term
April 23	Semester Begins
April 30	Drop/Add Ends
May 25	School Holiday—Memorial Day
June 29-July 3	Summer Break
June 30	Last Day to Withdraw and Receive a W
August 10	Last Day of Summer Term
Fall 2020 Term	
July 6-9	Registration for Fall Term
August 20	Semester Begins
August 27	Drop/Add Ends
September 7	School Holiday—Labor Day
October 22	Last Day to Withdraw and Receive a W
November 11	School Holiday – Veteran's Day
November 23-November 27	Fall Break
December 7	Last Day of Fall Term
Spring 2021 Term	
November 9-13	Registration for Spring Term
December 24	Semester Begins

December 31	Drop/Add Ends
January 1	School Holiday—New Year's Day
January 18	School Holiday—Dr. Martin Luther King Jr. Day
February 15	School Holiday—President's Day
February 22-26	Spring Break
March 2	Last Day to Withdraw and Receive a W
April 12	Last Day of Spring Term
Summer 2021 Term	
March 8-12	Registration for Summer Term
April 22	Semester Begins
April 29	Drop/Add Ends
May 31	School Holiday—Memorial Day
June 24	Last Day to Withdraw and Receive a W
July 5-9	Summer Break
August 9	Last Day of Summer Term

STUDENT LIFE

Location and Facilities

The Florida School of Traditional Midwifery is located in the historic Howard-Kelley House, which was built in 1883. The house was restored under the expert supervision of Mary Barrow and received the Florida Trust for Historic Preservation Adaptive Use Award for the State of Florida in 1987. Dr. Mark Barrow, a retired cardiologist, and his wife Mary, were delighted to assist the Florida School of Traditional Midwifery with the purchase of the mansion for use as a midwifery school and birth center in the spring of 2004.

This charming Victorian mansion is the perfect backdrop for midwifery in North Central Florida. We are proud to hold our courses in a structure that not only has ample space and beauty but a local history that will now remain preserved indefinitely.

Our campus includes two classrooms equipped with learning technology, a Science Lab, a Clinical Lab, a spacious student lounge and kitchen facility, a student library, a student Computer Lab with printer access, eight offices for staff and faculty, and a wrap-around porch for outdoor enjoyment. The Library contains reference books, journals and audiovisual materials. Students have access to the library and two learning labs, which are complete

with models, charts, and other learning materials for practice and personal study or research.

Our unique facilities help to foster a comfortable, yet challenging atmosphere in which students may learn and flourish as future midwives. FSTM adheres to all required building, fire, safety, and sanitation regulations. Additional information is available to students upon request.

ADMISSIONS

Admissions Policy

FSTM seeks talented students from diverse backgrounds who are passionate about maternity care and looking for the blend of academic and clinical education offered by our program. In determining admission, consideration is given to many different expressions of a student's qualities and abilities. Applications are accepted all year, but must be completed by the stated application deadline. Standardized test scores are not required. Students may be required to submit a background check, and some violations may delay or prevent students from obtaining licensure in the state of Florida. Students who have prior charges are asked to request a meeting with the Academic Director before starting the program to discuss any potential impact on licensure.

Prerequisites

In accordance with Florida law, and FSTM policy, prospective students must:

- Must be 18 years or older.
- Must be able to meet the Technical Standards for Admission outlined on page 22 of this catalog.
- Have a high school diploma or its equivalent.
- Have taken and received passing grades in college level courses for Math and English (worth at least three credits each). Or, demonstrate competency by passing the College Level Equivalency Proficiency (CLEP) test for Math and English with a score of 50 or higher.
- Have taken and received passing grades in a college level Medical Terminology course.
- Attend an approved doula training or birth assistant course of at least 15 hours within the last 2 years, or hold a current Doula certification, or provide proof of employment (if currently working as a Doula or Birth Assistant).
- Taken and passed the in-person CPR training course "BLS for Healthcare Providers" (see FSTM website for list of recommended trainings)
- Complete the application form and pay a non-refundable application fee of \$75.00.

Applicants are also encouraged to:

- Attend an Informational Open House at the school. This provides the students with information about our program and a clear understanding of the program's commitment and requirements.

- Attend a 15-hour Childbirth Education Training within the last two years or hold a current Childbirth Educator Certification.
- Take a college level Anatomy & Physiology, Biology or other Science course

Enrollment

In order to enroll in the Direct-Entry Program, prospective students must:

- Complete the application process and be accepted into the program
- Complete the Enrollment Packet and pay a non-refundable enrollment fee of \$200.00 by stated deadline.
- Complete the Health Verification Packet by stated deadline.

Application Components

Applicants should note that all components of the application packet must be received by the application deadline in order to be considered on time.

1. Completed application from the website, including a personal statement/essay
2. Applicable name change documents
3. Official High School transcripts (sealed), or notarized copy of your High School Diploma or G.E.D.
4. Official college transcripts (sealed) from **all** postsecondary institutions attended
5. Two professional letters of recommendation
6. Certificate of attendance of an approved doula training or birth assistant course or proof of certification/employment
7. Resume or CV
8. Completed FAFSA application (if requesting financial aid)

Technical Standards for Admissions

FSTM graduates are prepared for entry into active practice in the state of Florida.

Candidates must have ability to function in a broad variety of clinical situations and provide a wide spectrum of client care. The following abilities and expectations must be met with reasonable accommodation for all midwifery school candidates.

1. The student must have sufficient use of the sensory, visual, hearing, and motor systems, and the somatic sensation necessary to manipulate the required equipment, instruments, or tools, and to perform physically demanding examinations and deliveries (Ex.: lift and/or turn clients, maneuver physical positions quickly in response to the needs of their clients, etc.)
2. The student must be able to communicate with accuracy, clarity, efficiency, and sensitivity with both verbal and written judgments.
3. The student must demonstrate the emotional stability, perseverance, diligence, and consistency necessary to complete the program and function in the professional environment.

4. The students must be able to dedicate the time and meet the demands of the clinical setting, including on-call requirements from preceptors.
5. The student must be able to tolerate physically taxing workloads and flexibility to function in the face of uncertainties inherent in the clinical settings to meet the needs of many clients.

Application Evaluation

The Admissions Committee selects those applicants who appear best qualified to participate in and benefit from the program and the midwifery profession. The committee includes at minimum the Executive Director, Academic Director, Clinical Director, and may include additional staff, faculty, preceptors, or board members. Applicants are evaluated based on the following:

- Completeness, timeliness, and clarity of the application.
- Responses to essay questions, including spelling, grammar, and adherence to writing conventions.
- Demonstration of knowledge about the difference(s) between direct-entry and nurse midwives.
- Completion of all prerequisites
- Previous birth work experience
- Review of previous academic training and grades
- Review of the letters of recommendation

Advanced Standing and Transfer of Credit

Students should be aware that credits granted by FSTM may or may not be considered non-transferable, as this decision is at the discretion of other programs or schools. It is the responsibility of the student to confirm whether or not credits will be accepted by another institution.

FSTM does not accept transfer of credit; however, Advanced Standing may be granted for students with relevant prior education. The student must complete no fewer than 25% of the program credits at FSTM to be eligible to graduate. Therefore, no more than 68 credits can be awarded through Advanced Standing. Additionally, as mandated in Florida Statute 467 (F.S.467), previous student education will be assessed on an individual basis, but “in no case shall the training be reduced to a period of less than 2 years” (F.S.467.009 [2]).

Advanced Standing credits awarded will not count toward the maximum timeframe for completing the program. It is the student’s responsibility to provide FSTM with all official transcripts and any supporting documents required for evaluations of Advanced Standing requests in a timely manner. Advanced standing requests for all courses are evaluated on a case-by-case basis to determine whether or not the credits awarded and material covered is comparable to the courses offered at FSTM. Requests for Advanced Standing are granted **at the time of application** to the program. Students may petition to receive late Advanced

Standing credit due to extenuating circumstances, and these requests will be evaluated on a case-by-case basis.

Upon acceptance into the program, the Academic Director will conduct a review of the Advanced Standing request. A non-refundable fee of \$25.00 per FSTM credit of Advanced Standing requested will be collected prior to the assessment of credits, with the exception of Registered Nurses. The fee will be capped at \$500, or 20 credits. Courses where the applicant received a grade lower than a C will not be accepted.

The applicant may also be required to complete and pass a competency exam with a score of 75% or higher, as required by FSTM. Competency exams may only be taken once. If Advanced Standing is granted, both educational credits and tuition costs will be reduced proportionately and will be reflected in the enrollment agreement. All Advanced Standing decisions are final.

For Academic Year 17-18, Registered Nurses (RN) with a current, unrestricted license are awarded 29 credit hours automatically and free of charge. This policy is subject to change with subsequent academic years. The courses automatically granted for Advanced Standing are:

- 1101/1101L Anatomy and Physiology I & Lab
- 1103/1103L Healthcare Skills I & Lab
- 1109 Research and Public Health
- 1108 Cultural Competency
- 1201/1201L Anatomy and Physiology II/Lab
- 1203/1103L Healthcare Skills II/Lab
- 2201/2201L Microbiology/Lab
- 2105 Psychology for Midwives
- 1301/1301L Reproductive Anatomy and Physiology/Lab
- 2303 Pharmacology
- 1306 Interpersonal Communication
- 2101 Nutrition for the Childbearing Year
- 1204 Human Sexuality for Midwives

Returning Military Service Member

FSTM will readmit any military service members returning from active duty who withdrew or took a leave of absence (180 days or less) in order to fulfill military duty. The student will be promptly readmitted as soon as in-sequence courses are available. The student will be readmitted to the same program, at the same enrollment status, with the same number of completed credits, and with the same academic standing. The student will be assessed the same tuition and fee charges that would have applied in the year the student left the program, or the same as other current students if VA or other benefits will cover the difference.

If service members returning to school require assistance to prepare to return to the program, FSTM will make every effort to help the student to prepare. If more than two years have elapsed since the student left the program, the student will be required to repeat any core classes or other course material deemed necessary to successful continuation in the program. In this case, the student will be required to attend the class but will not be charged tuition or fees. Course material or clinical experience that needs to be reviewed or repeated will be assessed on a case-by-case basis.

In order to qualify for readmission, the student must have given advance oral or written notice before leaving the program and must submit written notice of intent to return to the program. Notice of intent to return must be submitted no later than three years after completion of service, and no later than two years after recovery from service-related illness or injury. Returning students will complete a new application and sign a new enrollment contract. They will not be required to pay the application and enrollment fee if returning within 5 years.

ADVISEMENT, COUNSELING AND PLACEMENT

FSTM administration is available for academic, clinical, and financial advising during the school's hours of operation, currently 9:00 am to 5:00 pm, Monday through Thursday, Friday by appointment and other hours by student request.

Academic Advisement

The Academic Director is responsible for academic advisement when the need arises for students. Academic advisement topics may include maintaining satisfactory academic progress (SAP), reducing barriers in student success and assessing study skills. In addition, when SAP is not met or when a student is placed on academic probation, the Academic Director will create an improvement plan to assist students in being successful in the program. Other topics may be covered as needed by the personal circumstances of the student.

Clinical Advisement

The Clinical Director is responsible for clinical advisement when the need arises for students. Clinical advisement topics may include maintaining satisfactory clinical progress, facilitating communication with preceptors and assessing clinical skills. Other topics may be covered as needed by the personal circumstances of the student.

Job Placement

The Academic Director and Clinical Director are available by appointment for academic and/or clinical counseling to students. Upon successful completion of the program, school administration is available to counsel graduates about job placement in a midwifery practice; however, the school cannot guarantee employment.

Financial Aid Advisement

The Financial Aid Director is responsible for financial aid advisement to include, but not be limited to, FERPA rights and notifications; education funding; assistance with the Free Application for Federal Student Aid (FAFSA); loan entrance and exit counseling; Direct loan requests and cancellations; private student loans; state funded scholarships and grants; VA benefits; private student scholarship opportunities; grant opportunities; and other topics as needed. The Financial Aid Director meets with every student during registration to help students understand student loans and their repayment obligations as needed. The Business Manager is responsible for overseeing student financial obligations and advisement.

Personal Advisement

The Academic Director, Clinical Director, and Executive Director are responsible for the provision of personal advisement when needed or necessary for student personal health and well-being. All three provide resources as needed for students to seek counseling/stabilization. If needed, students can be referred to Amy Vaknin, MEd/EdS, for additional counseling services.

ACADEMIC AND ADMINISTRATIVE POLICIES

Academic Honesty Policy

FSTM students are expected to act with integrity and honesty in all of their academic and clinical pursuits. Students, faculty, preceptors, and administration are expected to report any and all suspicions of dishonesty to the class instructor and/or the Academic and Clinical Director. Violations of academic honesty include but are not limited to:

- **Ethical Behavior:** Students should endeavor to interact with clients, midwives, and others in an ethical manner. Continued or blatant disregard of professional ethics may be grounds for dismissal. The MANA Statement of Values and Ethics (<https://mana.org/pdfs/MANASTatementValuesEthicsColor.pdf>) provides guidance for professional conduct in the practice of midwifery, including midwifery students. Also included in ethical behavior is an expectation that students will not engage in theft or other dishonest behavior.
- **Cheating:** Students are expected to complete their own work. Examples of cheating include, but are not limited to, copying written homework assignments from another student, copying from another student's paper during an in-class exam or looking at textbook or notes during an exam when not specifically permitted by the instructor.

- **Plagiarism:** The representation of someone else's work as one's own. This includes published or unpublished work, including the work of another student. Plagiarism includes, but is not limited to, quoting oral or written materials without citation on any written or oral assignments, submitting a research paper or other written assignment that was not written by the student, in whole or in part, (including papers purchased from a service, obtained on the Internet or obtained from another student).
- **Misrepresentation:** Any act or omission with intent to deceive an instructor for academic or clinical advantage is prohibited. Misrepresentation includes lying to an instructor, lying or misrepresenting facts when confronted with an allegation of academic dishonesty. It also includes misleading preceptors or the Clinical Director regarding clinical experience or falsifying clinical documents.
- **Professionalism:** Students should act professionally in dress, speech, and demeanor (see Appendix for specific information). Public opinion of midwifery and related professions is shaped through impressions of individual practitioners and students. Common sense standards of behavior and appearance are expected of FSTM students. Care providers are sensitive to the impression clients receive from students associated with their practices. A student's failure to meet behavioral expectations could result in dismissal from a preceptor site or from the program.

Violations of the academic honesty policy will be handled in the following manner:

1. For the first offense, the instructor should inform the Academic Director. When appropriate, a meeting will be held with the student. If it is determined that a violation has occurred, a Performance Review will be held, and the student may be placed on probation. Depending on the severity of the offense, including blatant violations of the MANA Statement of Values and Ethics (full statement found in Appendix), FSTM reserves the right to dismiss a student from the program without offering a probationary period.
2. A subsequent violation during the probationary period will result in dismissal from the program.

Academic Standing

- **Honors:** Student has earned all A's
- **In Good Standing:** Student has earned C's or better
- **Academic Warning:** Student has failed 1 or more classes
- **Academic Probation:** Student not making satisfactory academic progress
- **Academic Suspension:** Student fails to meet SAP in the following semester after being placed on Academic Probation. Students on Academic Suspension will no longer be eligible for Federal Financial Aid.
- **SAP - Satisfactory Academic Progress:** To meet SAP, student must maintain a cumulative GPA of 2.50 or higher AND successfully complete 67% of attempted credits each semester. Students receiving Federal Financial Aid will become ineligible if the student exceeds 150% of the program's timeframe for completion.

Students receive their grades directly from instructors via Sycamore Campus within their course homepages and in student records. Upon completion of the term, grades are automatically populated within the student transcript. Students can access their progress through the Sycamore Campus system. Login and access information is provided upon enrollment in the program.

Appeal Policy

A student may initiate a petition requesting an exception to any academic, administrative or financial policy or decision regarding their enrollment. Appeal information can be obtained by request from the Financial Aid Department.

If the original appeal is not resolved to the student's satisfaction, the student may submit a formal grievance to the Academic, Clinical or Executive Director according to FSTM's Grievance Policy outlined on page 32 of this Catalog.

Additionally, students can find information on the school's regulatory and accrediting agencies complaint process using the contact information below:

- **Commission for Independent Education (CIE)**
325 W. Gaines Street, Suite 1414
Tallahassee, FL. 32399-0400
E-mail: cieinfo@fldoe.org
Fax: 850-245-3238

- **Midwifery Education Accreditation Council (MEAC)**
850 Mt. Pleasant Ave
Ann Arbor, MI 48103
E-Mail: info@meacschools.org
Phone: (360) 466-2080
Please see Section III.P Accreditation Activities-Complaints against an Institution or Program

Attendance Policy

Students must register and pay for courses before the first day of class to attend classes, unless a payment arrangement has been made with the Business Manager. Students who do not attend at least one of the first two meetings of a class or clinical experience may be dropped from the course in accordance with the course drop/add policy. Attendance is tracked by instructors in every class.

FSTM expects students to attend every class for every course. Students are required to be off call during all academic classes. Because didactic learning underpins the clinical experience, it is vital that students do not miss classes. If missing class becomes inevitable, it is the student's responsibility to make up the coursework missed. If at any point the student's absences exceed 25% of the course hours for any individual course, the student will be given an "F" for the course and be required to retake and successfully pass the course. Instructors may set their own individual course policies for attendance as long as they do not conflict with this general policy.

If an absence is inevitable, the student is responsible for immediately contacting the instructor(s) for the course(s) **and** the FSTM Academic Director before the absence occurs.

Auditing Courses Policy

Students may audit certain courses when space is available. Students wishing to audit a course must obtain instructor and administrative approval and register for the course during regular registration. There is no credit given for a course that has been audited, and a grade of "X" will be assigned. The course will not be included in SAP calculations. Students who register to audit are expected to attend class and fully participate in the course, except on test days. In order to audit any course, necessary prerequisites must be met. To change from a grade to an audit, students must apply in writing within the first week of the course.

Provided that above guidelines are followed, a student may audit a class free of charge if the student has previously taken, passed and paid in full for the course. If a student has audited a class in the past and chooses to take it for a grade a second time, they must pay the full price for the class.

Class Break Policy

As described by the Florida Department of Education, for each clock hour of class time students will receive 50 minutes of instruction in the presence of an instructor and 10 minutes of break.

Conditions for Dismissal (Termination) Policy

A student may be dismissed for any of the following reasons:

- Failure to meet SAP requirements for academic or clinical courses following a probationary period
- Failing three or more classes throughout the entire midwifery program
- Failure to correct violations after notification by the Academic Director and/or the Clinical Director
- Failure to adhere to the FSTM Policies and Procedures
- Failure to meet financial commitments
- Failure to attend birth when on-call (see the clinical section of the catalog)
- Violating HIPAA guidelines
- Violating FSTM's Academic Honesty Policy (found on p. 27 of this catalog)

- Dismissal from two or more clinical sites due to poor performance or behavior
- Failing Clinical Skills Exam more than once
- Attending classes or clinical experience under the influence of alcohol or drugs
- Failure to correct behaviors identified at Performance Review
- Other behavior that is disruptive to the learning environment

Course Drop/Add Policy

The drop/add period for all classes will be the first week of the semester. Students may drop or register for additional classes during this period without academic or financial penalty beyond the charges for additional coursework. Students who do not attend one of the first two classes may be administratively dropped from the class. If a student drops a regularly scheduled course after the drop/add period but before the last day to withdraw, she or he will receive a grade of “W.”

To drop or add a course, students must:

- Obtain approval from the Academic Director for dropping or adding a course.
- Complete a drop/add form, available on Sycamore.
- The approved drop/add form must be submitted electronically to the administrative office by the end of the drop/add period.

Course or Program Cancellation Policy

FSTM reserves the right to cancel or postpone a class or program for any reason at its sole discretion, including insufficient student enrollment. FSTM administration will, however, attempt to make cancellation decisions well in advance of the beginning date of class and will further strive to honor commitments made to any students already enrolled in a particular program. If the school elects to cancel classes or programs, enrolled students are credited a 100% of tuition and fees paid for the class or program.

Course Withdrawal Policy

A student may withdraw from a class and receive a grade of “W” under the following conditions:

- A grade of “W” can be assigned after the stated drop/add date until the Last Date to Withdraw and receive a “W” for the semester. After that date, if a student stops attending class, a grade of “F” will be assigned.
- To receive a grade of “W,” the student must meet with the Academic Director, Clinical Director, and (if receiving Title IV funding) the Financial Aid Coordinator prior to the Last Date to Withdraw.
- If the Withdrawal is approved, the student will be notified and a grade of “W” will appear on the transcript.
- If the dropped course is a prerequisite to another course, the student may not register for the subsequent course until a passing grade is on record.
- The semester in which a student withdraws from a course will be counted toward the maximum time frame of 6 years unless the student does so during the drop/add period.

- Refunds are not given for Course Withdrawals.

Disciplinary Policy

When a student is found to be in violation of FSTM Policies and Procedures, the following actions will be taken:

- The Academic or Clinical Director will give a verbal and written notification of the violation(s) to the student.
- If the violation continues, the student will meet with a disciplinary committee comprised of the Academic and/or Clinical Director, the faculty member involved, if any, and another FSTM Director. A probationary period may be assigned.
- If the problem has not been remedied by the end of the probationary period, the student will be dismissed from the program.

Dismissal and Readmission Policy

When a student is dismissed, the student will meet with the Academic Director and/or Clinical Director to discuss the reason for dismissal and options for readmission. A specific plan for readmission will be established depending on the reasons for dismissal. Students who are dismissed for financial indebtedness may be allowed to reenter the program when the debt has been resolved.

Students who are dismissed for academic or clinical failure may apply for readmission after one full year after the date of dismissal. Students who wish to re-enter school after dismissal must make a request in writing to the Executive Director. She or he must provide evidence of having remedied academic or clinical problems and indicate commitment to successful performance. They will also be required to complete a new application and enrollment contract and pay the corresponding fees.

Readmission is at the discretion of the Academic, Clinical and Executive Directors. Students will be notified of status in writing, by mail. The student should expect to repeat the entrance procedure before being readmitted. Upon readmission following dismissal for academic failure, students will be placed on Academic or Clinical Probation, may be eligible for Title IV aid, and thus will have one semester to meet SAP requirements; academic or clinical failure in that semester will result in permanent dismissal from the program. Students who are dismissed are not entitled to refunds.

Students who are dismissed for cheating, plagiarism, theft, alcohol or drug abuse, violence, HIPAA violations or any other behavior that may be harmful to the learning environment or reputation of FSTM and/or would endanger the safety or well-being of any person, the school, preceptor site or anyone present at a birth will not be readmitted.

Email Policy

FSTM students are given unique email addresses at the start of their program. These emails are not to be used by, sold to, or shared with any entity outside of FSTM, and we protect our

student's privacy at all times. These email addresses are solely for official use by FSTM faculty, student, and staff.

Students are responsible for the security of data, accounts, and systems under your control. Keep passwords secure and do not share account or password information with anyone, including other students, family, or friends. Providing access to another individual, either deliberately or through failure to secure its access, is a violation of this policy.

For the full Email Policy, please see the Student and Faculty Handbooks.

Failing and Repeating a Course

Students may only repeat a course if the initial attempt resulted in a failing grade. When a student fails a course she or he may be required to attend a Performance Review and put on Academic Probation. All courses with failing grades must be repeated for a passing grade. In the event that a student fails a course, the student may be required to enroll at less than full time until the course can be repeated to ensure that all prerequisites are met. Failing then repeating a course will not extend the maximum time frame. Students must repeat any failed courses the next time they are offered, which is usually one year following the initial attempt. Both attempts will be recorded on the student's final transcript and will be calculated in the cumulative GPA.

The school will make every attempt to provide referrals for appropriate private tutoring for students who are experiencing academic challenges.

Failure to pass a course on a second attempt may result in dismissal. Students who fail three (3) or more classes throughout the course of the entire program may be dismissed.

Formal Student Complaint & Grievance Policy

FSTM maintains open communication and the resolution of conflicts through discussions and/or mediations. FSTM supports the student's right to file a complaint and seeks to ensure open avenues for students who wish to do so.

Students are encouraged to first attempt to resolve the grievance or complaint by speaking with the individual(s) involved. However, FSTM realizes that informal resolutions may not always be practical. When informal means do not resolve the complaint, students may begin the Formal Complaint & Grievance process.

When a student has a problem, issue, complaint or any other concern regarding their education with FSTM, and this matter cannot be resolved by the staff and faculty, the student may file a grievance using the following guidelines:

1. The grievance shall be presented in writing to the Academic Director, Clinical Director or Executive Director. A written acknowledgement of the grievance shall be provided to the student within (5) business days of receipt of the grievance and a resolution offered to the student within five (5) business days following the

acknowledgement of the grievance.

2. If a satisfactory resolution cannot be achieved via the review process cited in item 1 above, then the student presenting the grievance may request in writing that the grievance be reviewed by the Executive Director. Such a request is to be made directly to the Executive Director. A written acknowledgement of the grievance shall be provided to the student within (5) business days of receipt of the grievance and a resolution offered to the student within five (5) business days following the acknowledgement of the grievance.

3. If, upon review by the Executive Director, a satisfactory resolution is not achieved, the student may make a written request to the Board of Directors that the grievance be brought to the Board of Directors for review as soon as possible, but not later than 30 days. Such a request may only be made when the steps in items 1 through 3 have been taken. A written acknowledgement of receipt of the grievance shall be provided within five (5) days of receipt of the grievance.

4. The Board of Directors, or a committee appointed by the Board, shall review the grievance and decide if the finding of the Executive Director shall be upheld; or, if not upheld, undertake a separate review of the matter and render a final decision regarding the grievance. A written decision shall be provided to the student within forty-five (45) days of receipt of the grievance.

5. FSTM recognizes the importance of any grievance presented by a student and shall seek to find a resolution in a prompt manner.

Grading Policy

GPA is calculated using a point system. A and A+ are given 4 points per credit of the course, B+ receives 3.3 points, B receives 3, C receives 2, and F receives 0 points. The total number of quality points is divided by the number of credits attempted, and the result is the GPA. Students' academic performance will be graded on the following scale:

Grading Scale	
A+	100%
A	90-99%
B+	87-89%
B	80-86%
C	75-79%
F	0-74%
P / F	Pass / Fail
I	Incomplete
W	Withdrawn
IP	In Progress
X	Audit

The following courses are considered Pass / Fail:

- 2107 Midwifery Practicum I (Antepartum)
- 2207 Midwifery Practicum II (Intrapartum)
- 2305 Midwifery Practicum III (Postpartum)
- 3105 Midwifery Practicum IV (Obstetric Complications)
- 3202L Clinical Skills Practicum Lab

Pass / Fail courses do not count toward the total number of quality points and do not affect the GPA.

Incomplete Policy

Incompletes are given at the discretion of the instructor and the Academic or Clinical Director. Fees may apply. A student must offer a compelling reason for the request and a plan for completing the course work. Requests for an incomplete grade will be considered on a case-by-case basis. At least 80% of the coursework must have been completed at the time of the request. An "I" will appear on the grade report until the instructor submits a final grade. If the course is a prerequisite for another course, the student may only register for the subsequent course with permission from both the Academic Director and the course instructor. Students must complete the coursework by the end of the following semester, or an "F" will automatically become the final grade. Student's SAP will be recalculated once the final grade is posted.

Notice of Equal Access/Equal Opportunity and Nondiscrimination

FSTM is committed to an environment that embraces diversity, respects the rights of all individuals, is open and accessible, and is free of harassment and discrimination based on, but not limited to, ethnicity, race, creed, color, religion, age, disability, sex, marital status, national origin, political opinions or affiliations, veteran status, and genetic information. FSTM does not discriminate in its programs and activities, including employment and admissions. In particular, Title IX of the Education Amendments of 1972 (20 U.S.C. § 1681) is an all-encompassing federal law that prohibits discrimination based on the sex of students, employees, and third parties when appropriate, of educational institutions which receive federal financial assistance. Sexual harassment of students, which includes acts of sexual violence, is a form of sex discrimination prohibited by Title IX. FSTM complies with all aspects of this and other federal and state laws regarding non-discrimination. Title II of the Genetic Information Nondiscrimination Act of 2008 protects applicants and employees from discrimination based on genetic information in hiring, promotion, discharge, pay, fringe benefits, job training, classification, referral, and other aspects of employment. GINA also restricts employers' acquisition of genetic information and strictly limits disclosure of genetic information. Genetic information includes information about genetic tests of applicants, employees, or their family members; the manifestation of diseases or disorders in family members (family medical history); and requests for or receipt of genetic services by applicants, employees, or their family members. Anyone with questions about compliance or a complaint regarding harassment or discrimination, including sexual harassment and sexual violence as a violation of Title IX, should immediately contact the Executive Director.

Prerequisites Policy

Course prerequisites are listed with individual course descriptions. Except in rare circumstances, at the discretion of the Academic Director, course prerequisites are required to be satisfied before moving on to subsequent courses in the program.

Program Withdrawal Policy

A student may request to withdraw from the program, if necessary. A request must be submitted in writing to the Academic Director describing the reasons for the request. Electronic requests are acceptable.

Returning from Program Withdrawal Policy

If a student returns to the program **within one year** from the last day of the semester in which the withdrawal occurred, they will not be required to reapply to the program. However, they will be required to submit a new Enrollment Agreement. They will not be required to pay new application and enrollment fees.

If a student returns to the program **more than one year** after the original withdrawal date, they will be required to re-apply to the program and pay all associated application and enrollment fees.

In order to be considered for re-enrollment after withdrawal from the program, a student must:

- Be in good academic standing
- Be current in all financial obligations to the school
- Complete the application interview process and be accepted

Students who return to FSTM following withdrawal from the program will be able to retain credit for classes completed previously at FSTM as long as the classes were taken within the following time frames:

Core Classes – Three Years

- Antepartum
- Midwifery Practicums
- Diagnostic Testing
- Intrapartum
- Postpartum
- Newborn
- Obstetric Complications
- Clinical Skills Practicum Lab

Science Classes – Five Years

- Anatomy & Physiology I
- Anatomy & Physiology I Lab
- Anatomy & Physiology II
- Anatomy & Physiology II Lab
- Microbiology for Midwives
- Microbiology for Midwives Lab
- Reproductive Anatomy & Physiology
- Reproductive Anatomy & Physiology Lab
- Pharmacology

All Other Classes – Seven Years

- Healthcare Skills I
- Healthcare Skills I Lab
- Healthcare Skills II
- Healthcare Skills II Lab
- Research and Public Health
- Cultural Competency
- Midwifery History, Law and Rule
- Psychology for Midwives
- Interpersonal Communication
- Nutrition for the Childbearing Year
- Fetal Monitoring
- Human Sexuality for Midwives
- Professional Communication
- Herb Workshop
- Suturing for Midwives
- Breastfeeding
- Gynecology
- Collaborative Management
- Issues in Professional Midwifery
- Establishing and Maintaining a Practice
- NARM Review

If a student returns to FSTM beyond the time frames listed above, they will need to retake any corresponding courses to earn a new grade and receive credit.

If a student returns to FSTM and does not need to retake any classes for credit based on the aforementioned time frames, the student may be given the option to audit classes, pending instructor and administration approval, if the student would benefit from a review of the course material.

Research Requirement

The following courses carry a research requirement:

- Antepartum
- Intrapartum
- Postpartum
- Psychology for Midwives
- Research and Public Health
- Reproductive Anatomy and Physiology

Students will learn the valuable skill of gathering and synthesizing information to present either in oral or written form, or both. In each of the above classes, instructors assign either a research paper of at least five pages and/or a research-based presentation. All research assignments are required to be in correct JAMA format according to the most recent guidelines and standards.

Satisfactory Academic Progress (SAP) and Probation Policy

Satisfactory Academic Progress is a federal regulation requiring the FSTM Financial Aid Director to monitor the progress of each student who is receiving financial aid as they move toward completing their degree. SAP is calculated at the end of each semester. Any student whose cumulative grade point average (GPA) falls below 2.5, or who fails to successfully complete 67% of cumulative attempted credits, or exceeds 150% of the maximum timeframe is considered to have failed meeting SAP requirements for that terms and will be placed on academic probation for the following semester.

Students placed on probation due to not meeting SAP requirements will be notified via e-mail. The student should request to meet with the Academic Director and Financial Aid department before the start of their probationary term. Students will remain on academic probation for one semester only and will remain eligible for Federal Financial Aid during that period. Probation will be lifted once the student completes the probation semester within Satisfactory Academic Progress Standards (see Grading Policy) for both qualitative (grade average) and quantitative (rate of completion of credits) measures. Students on academic probation will be required to meet with the Academic Director, at the discretion of the Academic Director.

If the student fails to meet SAP in the following semester after being placed on Academic Probation, they will be placed on Academic Suspension. Students on Academic Suspension will no longer be eligible for Title IV: Federal Financial Aid and may be dismissed from the program. Students who are placed on Academic Suspension due to not meeting the minimum SAP requirements after being placed on Academic Probation may appeal the determination if mitigating or unusual circumstances exist.

A successful appeal will result in the student being placed back on Academic Probation for the current term, during which the student will remain eligible for Federal Financial Aid.

Students are eligible to petition for an appeal one time during the period of academic intervention. The appeal request is available through the Financial Aid Director upon request.

Students seeking to appeal the Academic Suspension status are required to have a written Academic or Clinical Improvement Plan signed by the Academic/Clinical Director included in their petitions. Additionally, they must be able to provide necessary documentation to clearly and convincingly prove that extenuating circumstances existed during the semester of academic difficulty, and that those circumstances would be reasonably determined to have significantly impacted the student's ability to meet SAP for that term. The student must also present evidence that the situation has changed and they are reasonably expected to meet SAP measurements by the end of the term. Students may only appeal for the same circumstance once.

Students who are dismissed for academic or clinical failure may apply for readmission one full year after the date of dismissal. Students who wish to re-enter school after dismissal must make a request in writing to the Executive Director. They must provide evidence of having remedied academic or clinical problems and indicate promise of successful performance.

Readmission is at the discretion of the Academic, Clinical and Executive Directors. Students will be notified of final decisions in writing, by mail. The student should expect to repeat the application process before being readmitted.

More information is available upon request through the Financial Aid department.

Scheduling and Class Hours

A current schedule of classroom hours for each term will be available before the beginning of each semester. Scheduling at clinical sites will be done in collaboration with FSTM, the student, and the clinical sites.

Social Media and Networking Policy

Social media activities include but are not limited to creating or contributing to: Blogs, message boards, RSS feeds, etc.; social networks such as Facebook, Instagram, Twitter, and YouTube; or any other kind of social media site on the internet. FSTM students, staff, and faculty are prohibited from posting any content that directly or indirectly criticizes or ridicules FSTM, its policies, students, faculty, staff or curriculum, on any social networking site. In addition, FSTM students may not use their FSTM email credentials to engage on social media sites or discussions at all.

A Student, Faculty member or Preceptor found to have violated this policy may be subject to disciplinary action, up to and including termination/dismissal. A violation of this policy by a temporary employee, contractor or vendor may result in the termination of their contract or assignment with FSTM.

For the full Social Media and Networking Policy, please see the Student and Faculty Handbooks.

Student Evaluation Policy

Student midwives at FSTM may be required to participate in a **Student Success Plan** and/or **Performance Plan**. The purpose of these plans is to evaluate and review the student's academic standing, clinical skills, and/or professionalism, and develop a strategy that will lead to successful completion of the program.

The Student Success Plan is devised by the student and reflects the challenge they are facing and plan for correction. If issues are not corrected by the Student Success Plan, a Performance Plan will be developed by at least two of the following: Executive Director, Academic Director, Clinical Director, and/or faculty members. Performance Plans will involve student-identified strengths and challenges; faculty, director, or preceptor-identified critiques; and a plan for correction.

Failure to complete the actionable items of the Performance Plan may result in academic or clinical probation, delay, or denial of placement at clinical sites, or dismissal from the program.

Circumstances that may require a Performance Plan include, but are not limited to, the following:

- Unsatisfactory academic or clinical performance, or failure to conform to academic or clinical policies as outlined in this catalog and the Student Handbook
- Unethical or unprofessional behavior in the academic or clinical setting
- Failure to maintain confidentiality according to HIPAA guidelines
- Failure to meet academic or clinical deadlines
- Failure to complete academic or clinical assignments
- Disrespect toward preceptors, faculty, fellow students, staff and or clients
- Failure to comply with individual clinical site policies and procedures
- Failure to show appropriate development or proficiency of clinical skills
- Impairment when on call, in class or in any capacity as a student midwife, or other violation of FSTM policies
- Failure to show sound clinical judgment
- Participation in any actions outside the licensed midwifery scope of practice as outlined in Florida Statute Ch. 467 and FAC 64B24

Performance Plans are also required for petitions to appeal an Academic Suspension status due to not meeting SAP requirements in a probationary term. This form is available in the Financial Aid department.

Withheld Grades Policy

The school will withhold grade reports, transcripts and diploma if a student has outstanding debts to FSTM, which can include administrative file forms and/or any unpaid balance on her or his account.

CLINICAL POLICIES & PROCEDURES

Clinical Lab Enrollment

Students are eligible to enroll in Clinical Lab beginning Year 1 Term 2 and continue to enroll each semester throughout the remainder of the program. In order to be eligible to attend Clinical Lab, students must:

- Pass all classes in Year 1, Term 1
- Demonstrate professionalism and appropriate communication skills
- Demonstrate minimal proficiency in basic skills obtained in Healthcare Skills I
- Submit a completed Health Verification Packet
- Hold current certification in BLS for Healthcare Providers and NRP
- Have reliable transportation
- Have access to a phone

To continue to be enrolled in and attend Clinical Lab, students must maintain a cumulative GPA of 2.5, maintain appropriate proficiency of skills, and not be on clinical probation.

Clinical Placement

Students will be assigned to work directly with a qualified preceptor or Clinical Observation Site. These include Florida Licensed Midwives, Certified Nurse Midwives, Registered Nurses, or obstetricians who work in home birth practices, birth centers, women's health facilities, and hospital settings. Clinical experiences may include attending prenatal and postpartum appointments, participation during labor and birth, participation and observation in pregnancy related services, and learning office procedures for various practices. Students will progress through a tiered process of observation, assistance under supervision, and primary under supervision in the antepartum, intrapartum and postpartum period.

Students may obtain clinical experience in two types of settings:

- **Clinical Observation Sites**
 - Receive clinical clock hours
 - Serve as "Silent Observer" (see below, "Clinical Experience")
 - May work with a variety of health care practitioners and newly licensed midwives referred to as "mentors"
- **Clinical Preceptor Sites**

- Receive clinical clock hours
- Serve as “Silent Observer,” “Assistant Under Supervision” or “Primary Under Supervision” (see below, “Clinical Experience”)
- Preceptors are physicians, licensed midwives, or certified nurse midwives who have a minimum of 3 years’ professional experience, and who direct, teach, supervise, and evaluate the learning experiences of the student midwife

The Clinical Director facilitates placement of students at clinical sites. Students and preceptors/mentors have the opportunity to meet and interview with one another to determine if they are a good fit for each other prior to clinical placement. FSTM does its best to place students in sites within their current communities, but assignment is dependent on a number of factors, including how many student openings a particular site has, how many students desire placement at those sites, and whether the student and preceptor/mentor believe they are a well suited for each other.

In the event that a student cannot be placed at a site within their own community, they may be required to commute or relocate in order to attend clinic. Students are responsible for the costs related to travel, room and board related to clinical lab. Students must have reliable transportation while on call and must be accessible by telephone.

Clinical placement will be assigned on a per semester basis. A Semester Agreement shall be signed by the student, preceptor/mentor, and Clinical Director at the beginning of each semester. Students and preceptors satisfied with their arrangement may continue to work together for the duration of the program; however, it is encouraged for students to gain experience with more than one preceptor for exposure to varying practice styles. Students are required to attend a requisite number of births in both hospital and home settings.

Students are not permitted to change clinical sites without the Clinical Director’s approval. Unauthorized changes in clinical site will result in denial of clinical experiences received at the unapproved site, placement on a Performance Plan, and/or clinical probation.

Clinical Experience

All clinical requirements are in compliance with Chapter 467, Florida Statute, the Commission for Independent Education, the North American Registry of Midwives (NARM), and the Midwifery Education Accreditation Council (MEAC). Students shall abide by the clinical site’s personnel policies, protocols, and contracts as deemed by the Preceptor.

Definition of clinical experience roles:

- **Silent Observer:** Students are introduced to antepartum, intrapartum, postpartum, and newborn skills at the clinical site. Students observe or assist in a role that meets their skill level. The observer role is one of learning and observation, beginning to explore the relationship between theoretical knowledge of skills and practical application. Five Silent Observer experiences do not require an FSTM-approved Preceptor and can be approved in observation-only clinical sites.

- **Assistant Under Supervision:** Students are developing antepartum, intrapartum, postpartum, and newborn skills at the clinical site. Students assist the primary midwife, providing supportive care that helps to develop critical thinking and other clinical skills, but does not yet apply those skills consistently or proficiently. They may be beginning to make management decisions, but may not yet be consistently using best practice.
- **Primary Under Supervision*:** Students are proficient in antepartum, intrapartum, postpartum, and newborn skills at the clinical site. Students act as primary midwife under the supervision of an FSTM-approved Preceptor. Students apply theoretical knowledge to practice and demonstrate the ability to consistently and correctly make management decisions regarding client/patient care.

**Note: Only one student can assume the Primary Under Supervision role at a clinical experience. If two students are present, they may not “co-manage.” However, one student may take the Assistant Under Supervision role (see above) and one may take the Primary Under Supervision role.*

Clinical experience minimum requirements for graduation:

Initial Prenatal Exam: 23

- Assistant Under Supervision: 3
- Primary Under Supervision: 20

Prenatal Exam: 80

- Assistant Under Supervision: 25
- Primary Under Supervision: 55

Labor & Birth: 80

- Silent Observer: 10
- Assistant Under Supervision: 20
- Primary Under Supervision: 50

Newborn Exam: 50

- Assistant Under Supervision: 20
- Primary Under Supervision: 30

Postpartum Exam: 50

- Assistant Under Supervision: 10
- Primary Under Supervision: 40

Partial Continuity of Care: 10

- Student shall provide care in a Primary or Assistant role for at least one prenatal visit AND serve as Primary at the birth (labor, birth, immediate postpartum exam, newborn exam)

Full Continuity of Care: 5

- Student shall provide continuous care to the client for the following: 5 complete prenatal exams spanning at least 2 trimesters, the birth (labor, birth, immediate postpartum exam, newborn exam), and 2 complete follow-up postpartum exams, all as the Primary Under Supervision

Vaginal Suture: 5

- Student shall perform vaginal suture of 1st or 2nd degree laceration

In all categories, the Assistant under Supervision requirements must be completed before the student midwife can begin as Primary under Supervision.

These experiences must include:

- A minimum of 5 births conducted in the home
- A minimum of 2 planned hospital births (may not be a result of an intrapartum transport, but may be an antepartum transport)
- In all categories, the Assistant under Supervision requirements must be completed before the student midwife can begin as Primary under Supervision.

Clinical Hours

Each credit of Midwifery Clinical Lab equates to a minimum of 60 clock hours. The FSTM Clinical program encompasses 23 Midwifery Clinical Lab credits and 1,380 clock hours. Clinical hours are obtained via attendance at the clinical site.

FSTM honors that each person's birth experience is unique. Given this, the exact number of hours required to attend the mandated number of birth experiences cannot be predetermined. Intrapartum hours (time spent at birth) may be in addition to clinical hours as defined in the curriculum. Most students will exceed the minimum number of clinical hours required. The preceptor and student shall work together to develop a mutually agreeable call and clinic schedule for the student, and the student must be off call for classes.

Each Clinical Lab credit is equivalent to 60 clock hours. Students will document clinical hours on the Clinical Hours Log and will submit a final and signed version at the end of each semester. The total number of hours submitted must be equivalent to or exceed the number of clock hours associated with the number of Clinical Lab credits for which the student has registered. As an example, if the student has registered for two credits of Clinical Lab, they must show documentation of at least 120 Clinical Lab clock hours. Students may not include driving time to or from clinic and births on the Clinical Hours Log.

Students at risk for not obtaining the minimum number of clinical hours in a semester may obtain hours in additional settings at the discretion of the Clinical Director.

Clinical Experience Documentation

Students are required to submit clinical experience forms to the clinical director using our online clinical experience tracking system, Clinical BirthTree. Forms shall be submitted in a timely manner. Students should document all clinical visits at the end of the clinic day and birth experiences soon after client discharge. This is consistent with good midwifery charting practice. Forms submitted more than a month after the clinical experience will be subject to further review and may not be approved by the Clinical Director.

Skills Development

FSTM engages in a progressive approach to skill acquisition. Skills are taught in sequence moving from less autonomy and proficiency to more autonomy and proficiency. Students will be given the opportunity for development of skills in Health Care Skills courses and Midwifery Practicum courses as well as in the clinical setting.

Students develop their knowledge and skills in a progressive approach:

- **Introduced:** Students observe or assist in a limited role that meets their skill level. The observer role is one of learning and observation, beginning to explore the relationship between theoretical knowledge of skills and practical application.
- **Developing:** Students assist the primary midwife, providing supportive care that helps to develop critical thinking and other clinical skills, but does not yet apply those skills consistently or proficiently. They may be beginning to make management decisions, but are not yet consistently using best practice.
- **Mastery:** Students act as primary midwife under the supervision of an FSTM-approved preceptor. Students apply theoretical knowledge to practice and demonstrate the ability to consistently and correctly make management decisions regarding client/patient care.

MEAC Required “Second Signature” Skills

Per NARM/MEAC guidelines students must have verification from two different preceptors of proficiency for the following skills:

1. Basic maternal physical exam
2. Routine prenatal exam
3. Newborn exam
4. 4-6 week postpartum check-up

This verification is to be documented on the ‘NARM Required Essential Skills Form’. Both Preceptor signatures on each skill must indicate that the student has demonstrated proficiency in the skill.

Clinical Skills Exam

In Year 3 Term 3 of the midwifery program, students enroll in course 3202, Clinical Skills Practicum Lab. The course is structured to include a series of skills practice days which end in a comprehensive skills exam to determine proficiency in advanced skills prior to graduation. Refer to the Clinical Skills Exam Study Guide for a complete description of the exam and information on preparing to take the test. **Students must pass this exam in order to graduate from FSTM.** Please see the syllabus for 3202 Clinical Skills Practicum Lab for the CSE Retake Policy and other information.

Health Verification Packet

To participate in the clinical component of the program, students must complete and submit a Health Verification Packet. All fees associated with a physical health exam, titers, and vaccinations are solely the responsibility of the student. The Health Verification Packet must be submitted to the Clinical Director by the end of the first week of classes, Year 1, Term 1.

Required components of the Health Verification Packet include:

- Signed Health Risk Understanding and Agreement
- Emergency Care Form
- Immunization Status Form
- Lab titer reports
- Tuberculosis test report
- Signed vaccination waivers (if titers are negative and student is declining vaccination)
- Physical Exam
- Health Insurance Verification

BLS AND NRP Certification

To begin Clinical Lab, FSTM requires current certification of:

- BLS (Basic Life Support) for Healthcare Providers
 - *No other CPR classes may be substituted for BLS*
- NRP (Neonatal Resuscitation Program)

Current BLS for Healthcare Providers and NRP certifications must be maintained for all subsequent semesters for which a student is enrolled. Standard renewal is within 2 years. The student is responsible for the fees and scheduling of these trainings and must maintain a proof of certification in both BLS and NRP on file at FSTM. If certifications lapse while enrolled in Clinical Lab, students must discontinue attending all clinical experiences until they renew certifications. This could result in a student failing a semester of Clinical Lab, if it is not resolved.

Law and Rule at Preceptor Sites

Students shall review and abide by Florida law governing midwifery practice detailed by Florida Statute 467 and Florida Administrative Code 64B24.

The unlicensed practice of midwifery in the state of Florida is a felony (FS. 467.201). The student must, at all times, function within the student/preceptor relationship and the provisions of Chapter 467, Florida Law and Rule. If a student is asked to perform clinical duties outside of the scope of practice of Florida Statute/Administrative Code, the student shall decline and notify the Clinical Director within 24 hours.

While enrolled at FSTM, the student agrees not to be present at a birth or clinical experience or to perform midwifery or medical services without the presence of a supervising FSTM-approved preceptor. Any student practicing midwifery in the birth or clinical setting without the presence and supervision of an FSTM-approved preceptor, except in the case of an emergency, is in violation of Florida Statute 467.201, an act that constitutes a felony of the third degree. Violation of this statute will result in immediate dismissal from the program.

Professional Liability Insurance

FSTM students are covered by professional medical liability insurance through FSTM. In order for a student to be covered by this policy, the FSTM-approved preceptor must be present and supervising the student during the clinical experience. Any student practicing midwifery in the birth or clinical setting without the presence and supervision of an FSTM-approved preceptor will not be covered by the school's liability insurance. This policy does not protect students in observation-only sites. The policy does not cover student experiences with other staff midwives at the student's clinical site if they are not FSTM-approved preceptors. The student agrees to inform the FSTM Clinical Director of any incident or situation that they believe may result in a liability claim within 24 hours of occurrence. The student shall also submit to the Clinical Director a written, printed statement of the events that have occurred as soon as possible, within three days of the occurrence.

HIPAA Guidelines

The Health Insurance Portability and Accountability Act (HIPAA) Privacy and Security Rules are intended to enforce standards of ethics and confidentiality.

- Students will not to use real names or other individually identifiable health information when documenting their experiences, discussing client cases in class or otherwise. This includes: clients, midwives, physicians, and events that take place at clinical sites.
- When submitting clinical experience documentation to FSTM, student midwives are to use a standardized client coding system. This code shall include the first and last initial of the client, followed by a six-digit month and day of birth (XXMMDDYY). For example, Sally Smith, DOB March 4, 1986 would be coded as SS030486.
- Student midwives are encouraged to keep a private log (for personal use only) of all client names with client codes to use as a reference when submitting clinical

paperwork. It is the responsibility of the student to ensure that these logs are kept secure and in compliance with HIPAA guidelines.

- Student midwives may never photocopy client records or charts without direct permission from the healthcare practitioner and the client.
- Violations of HIPAA may result in any of the following:
 - Development of Student Success or Performance Plan
 - Clinical Probation
 - Dismissal from the clinical site
 - Dismissal from the program

Challenges in the Clinical Site

Students and preceptors alike have the right to be treated with respect and professionalism. When feasible, issues in the clinical site should be resolved at the most immediate level possible and students are encouraged to first attempt to resolve their grievance or complaint by speaking with the individual(s) involved.

If a dispute occurs and informal means of resolution are not productive, please notify the Clinical Director as soon as possible. FSTM realizes that informal resolutions may not always be practical and the Clinical Director is always available to discuss any situation with the student or preceptor. The Clinical Director's responsibility is to strive to mediate a resolution that is satisfactory to all parties involved.

In the event that disagreements or problems regarding behavior or clinical performance are not resolved, the Preceptor has the right to file a Clinical Grievance and/or dismiss a student from the clinical site.

Students have the right to submit Formal Grievances in accordance with FSTM's Grievance Policy outlined on page 32 of this Catalog.

Corrective Action

If a student refuses to perform agreed upon clinical duties, such as attendance in clinic, attendance at birth while on-call, or various assigned tasks/skills within the scope of the law, they may be placed a Performance Plan, clinical probation and/or be dismissed from their current clinical site. This may further result in a failing grade in Clinical Lab or dismissal from FSTM.

Risk Management and Clinical Incident Reporting

A 'Clinical Incident' is any clinical situation where the possibility exists that the school could be named in an insurance claim or lawsuit, even when the practitioner is not at fault or when the incident resolves favorably. Some examples of events that students might report include (but are not limited to): shoulder dystocia, hemorrhage resulting in a hospital transfer, infection or allergic reaction, or neonatal resuscitation. It is preferred that students submit incident reports that are unnecessary, rather than not to have one on file in the case of a problem.

Incident Reporting Procedure:

- 1) When an incident occurs, the student shall call the Clinical Director within 24 hours. If the Clinical Director is not available the student or preceptor should contact the Executive Director or Associate Director. Do not write any description of the incident or refer to the incident in an e-mail or social media forum.
- 2) Complete the Incident Report Form. This form is available for download in the 'Student Documents' section of Sycamore. Statements on the Incident Report should be strictly factual.
- 3) When the Incident Report Form is completed, send it via US mail or hand deliver to the Clinical Director within one week of the incident. Do not fax or email.
- 4) The student should not discuss the incident with other students or faculty. Students are further advised to avoid making statements while in a highly emotional state. The student is encouraged to seek the advice of the Clinical Director as early as possible.
- 5) An incident may not be discussed in private e-mail at any time. Reporting or discussing any incident, other than in the incident report, must occur by telephone.
- 6) If the student or preceptor has a question about whether an incident merits reporting, please contact the Clinical Director.

FINANCIAL POLICIES AND FEES

Financial Policy

Upon confirming registration, students assume full responsibility for payment of their tuition and other fees associated with their education at the Florida School of Traditional Midwifery Inc., in accordance with the payment policies of the school. Each semester's tuition, in its entirety, must be paid prior to the start of the semester. Formal payment plans are available by request. Payment plans begin with at least 50% of the tuition paid prior to the start of the semester, accompanied by a formal payment plan arranged with the Finance Department for the remaining balance during the course of the semester. All tuition and other fees must be paid by the end of each semester in order for the student to receive grades and register for any subsequent semester.

If the student is receiving Federal Financial Aid (also known as Title IV) and /or any other financial aid, FSTM will credit the student's account, and disburse the remainder after tuition and fees to the student at the end of the drop-add period.

If a student has an unpaid balance at the end of a term and is unable to make payment in full, she or he will not be eligible to register for any subsequent term. A student under these circumstances may submit a written request to the Finance Department to establish a payment plan to pay off any outstanding balance. The payment plan must be approved and signed by the Executive Director in order for the student to be eligible to register for a subsequent term. All financial obligations must be met prior to graduation.

FSTM students who enroll for Academic Year 17-18 and beyond are charged a fixed rate (\$4,352) per semester that includes all required fees. If a student adds/drops classes during the semester there is no change in the per credit charges.

Tuition and Fees*

Cost	Amount	Due	Notes
Block Tuition per Semester	\$4,352	Each Term	Block tuition applies to students taking at least half of the credits scheduled for the given term; for students taking fewer than half, a-la-carte credit hour rates apply
Application Fee	\$75	With Application	Non-Refundable; Due at time of application
Enrollment Fee	\$200	With Enrollment Contract	Non-Refundable; See Program Withdrawal and Refund Policy for refund information; due at time of enrollment
Graduation Fee	\$30	Year 3 Term 3	Due with tuition in last term
Advanced Standing Fee	\$25/credit	Per Advanced Standing credit(s) Requested	If Advanced Standing is requested, due at time of application
Late Payment Fee	\$50	When a late payment is made (three day grace period applies)	Extenuating circumstances will be considered on a case by case basis
Incomplete Grade Fee	\$50	When an "I" is requested	Must resolve incomplete grade within one semester; extenuating circumstances will be considered on a case by case basis
Course Retake Fee	\$150/credit	Per credit(s) requested	Applied to the term that the course is being re-taken, if the student is taking less than 50% of the total credits for that term

ID Badge Replacement Fee	\$5	When a student requests an additional name badge	Non-refundable
Diploma Replacement Fee	\$15	When a student requests an additional diploma	Non-refundable

** Fees subject to change*

Equipment, Textbooks and Training

Students are responsible for costs not paid directly to FSTM for the purchase of supplies, books and required training. Textbook lists and any required supplies lists will be given at least two weeks prior to the start of a new semester. Individual costs vary depending on textbook source chosen.

Other recommended supplies and equipment:

- Computer or tablet
- Word processing software (Microsoft Word, Pages, etc.)
- Cell phone (smartphone preferred)

All financial obligations must be met prior to graduation. Costs vary depending on textbook/training source chosen. The cost of equipment, textbooks and training is estimated to be \$2,768.00.

Financial Aid Opportunities

We have a number of financial aid opportunities available for those who qualify. Funding sources include guidelines and restrictions so please be sure to meet with our Financial Aid Director for more information on your personal financial aid options.

Below is a list of funding options that we currently accept:

- Pell Grants
- Stafford Loans (both subsidized or unsubsidized)
- Parent Plus Loans
- Bright Futures scholarships
- Florida Prepaid Plan (529 College Savings Plan)
- Career Source Florida Program (Workforce Investment & Opportunity Act)
- VA Funding
- Honorably Discharged Graduate Assistance Program

- Vocational Rehabilitation
- Other Private Grants & Scholarships
- Private student loans through Sallie Mae and Wells Fargo
- Federal Work Study

Federal Financial Aid

Students who are US citizens or permanent residents may be eligible for Pell Grants, Stafford Loans, or Plus Loans. Stafford Loans are available to those who qualify and may be either subsidized or unsubsidized. All student loans are required to be paid back with interest. Students can apply online at www.fafsa.ed.gov. To learn more about financial aid eligibility, and repayment information contact the Financial Aid Director.

Enrollment Status for Federal Title IV Financial Aid

Because FSTM offers a program in credit hours and terms but does not award a degree, the program is subject to clock to credit conversion when calculating enrollment status for Federal Student Aid (FSA). To determine whether a student is enrolled full-time, three-fourths time or half-time, the institution must divide the number of clock hours in each term by 37.5. The resulting number is the FSA, or “converted,” credits for that term. Full time enrollment is 12 converted credits, three-fourths time is at least 9, and half-time is at least 6 converted credits.

Grade Level Progression Policy for Title IV

In order for students to progress from first to second year FSA award amounts they must complete 30 converted credits (see above). Students will be eligible for second year award amounts once they have completed 30 converted credits. No students will reach 60 converted credits under the current FSTM curriculum. Currently, First-Year loans for independent students are \$4,750.00 and \$2,750.00 for dependent students per semester. Any eligible student taking the complete Direct-Entry curriculum can qualify for first-year award amounts from Year 1, Term 1 through Year 2, Term 2. Second-year award amounts may be available in Year 2, Term 3 through the end of the program. Currently, Second-Year loans are \$5,250.00 for independent students and \$3,250.00 for dependent students per semester.

Veteran’s Credit for Previous Education or Training

Students must report all education and training. The school must evaluate and grant credit, if appropriate, with the training time shortened, the tuition reduced proportionately, and the VA and student notified. Students with credit for prior training attend fewer hours (courses) per semester, but do not necessarily graduate earlier than their cohort. Their tuition is reduced by the number of credits approved.

Veterans Attendance Policy

- Veterans must attend the first day of class in order to be eligible for benefits.
- Students exceeding 20% total absences in a calendar month will be terminated from their VA benefits for unsatisfactory attendance.
- After having benefits terminated due to unsatisfactory attendance, students must demonstrate that the cause of the unsatisfactory attendance has been removed and must have good attendance for one calendar month in order to be considered for recertification of their VA educational benefits.
- The student's attendance record will be retained in the veteran's file for audit purposes.

Veteran's Standards of Academic Progress

If the cumulative GPA falls below 2.0 at the end of any term the student will be placed on academic probation. The GPA must be brought up to 2.0 or better by the following term or the veteran student will be terminated from veteran benefits.

Recertification for Veterans Administration Benefits

Upon obtaining a 2.0 cumulative grade point average, the veteran student can be recertified for veteran benefits.

Program Withdrawal and Refund Policy

Should the student withdraw or be dismissed for any reason, all refunds will be made according to the following refund schedule:

- Program withdrawal must be made as an official written request, which includes email requests.
- The complete enrollment fee will be refunded if the student withdraws from the program within three (3) business days after signing the Enrollment Agreement and making the initial payment. After three (3) business days, only \$125.00 of the enrollment fee will be refunded.
- Program withdrawal after the third (3rd) business day and before the first day of class will result in a refund of all tuition and fees paid, with the exception of \$75.00 of the enrollment fee.
- Program withdrawal after classes have begun, but prior to 21% completion of the semester, will result in a prorated refund computed on the number of days attended as a percentage of total program days for the semester.
- No refund will be given after 21% of the semester has passed.
- Program withdrawal date: The program withdrawal date for refund computation purposes is the date written notice of withdrawal is received in the Academic office, or the last day of attendance if no communication is received.
- Refunds will be made within 30 days of receipt of the Program Withdrawal Notice.

- No refunds will be made for costs not paid to FSTM or any non-refundable fees disclosed
- More information is available through the financial aid office.

Return of Title IV Funds

- FSTM is required to determine the percentage of Title IV funds earned by the student and return the unearned portion to the appropriate federal aid programs based on the program withdrawal date. This is also required if the student drops a course that causes them to fall below a ½ time status.
- Funds must be returned within 45 days of the program or course withdrawal.
- Unless the student completes 60% of the term in which the aid has been awarded, the student will be required to return all or a prorated portion of the aid disbursed to them.
- FSTM will notify the student of any balance due and repayment information.
- If the student doesn't pay the balance within 45 days, they will be turned over to the Department of Education for collections and will be ineligible for future aid until the balance is paid in full or payment arrangements are made with the department.

REGULATORY POLICIES

Graduation Requirements

- Complete all courses listed in the program curriculum with a grade of "C" or better.
- Complete all clinical requirements listed in the program requirements, and submit appropriate and completed documentation to the FSTM Clinical Department.
- Submit completed skills checklist with signatures to FSTM Clinical Department.
- Complete application for graduation.
- Payment of \$35.00 graduation fee in Year 3 Term 2
- All financial obligations must be met.
- Financial Aid students complete Exit Counseling.

Maximum Timeframe for Completion

The maximum timeframe for completion of the academic portion of the Direct-Entry Midwifery program is 6 years. If a student cannot meet academic and clinical requirements for graduation within the maximum timeframe, the student will be considered as not making satisfactory progress and may be terminated from the program. Time the student is enrolled but not receiving Title IV funding is counted toward the maximum timeframe to complete the program, as are semesters during which the student fails a course, withdraws from a course, or receives an incomplete in a course. The amount of time that a student is on a leave of absence is not necessarily counted toward the maximum timeframe. Students must complete 67% of attempted credits in order to graduate within the maximum timeframe. Students receiving Federal Financial Aid will become ineligible if the student exceed 150% of the programs time frame for completion.

NARM Certification Requirements

For the Direct-Entry Midwifery Program and Licensure by Endorsement Program:

1. Graduates of a MEAC accredited program must fulfill NARM's general education requirements, available on their website at www.narm.org.
2. MEAC school graduates are expected to apply for NARM certification within three years of graduation. If application for certification is made after this time, NARM will require additional documentation.
3. Clinical requirements must be completed (Clinical Lab credits: 23, total Clinical Lab clock hours: 1380). Please refer to the Clinical Policy and Procedure section of the catalog.
4. Provide a copy of your notarized graduation diploma or a copy of final transcripts with the school insignia.
5. A statement verifying that the student has successfully performed all of the skills on the NARM Verification Form.
6. Required documentation to take the NARM exam includes:
 - A copy of the CPR and NRP card
 - Practice Guidelines
 - An Informed Consent document
 - Forms and handouts relating to midwifery practice
 - An Emergency Care Plan document
 - Cultural Competency course, module, or standards completed

Requirements for Florida Licensure as a Midwife: Licensure by Examination

The following guidelines apply to graduates of FSTM's 3-year direct entry program (see Florida Administrative Code 64B24-2 for more information):

- Must be 21 years of age when applying for licensure
- Submit application to the Florida Department of Health Council of Licensed Midwifery
- Official transcript from an approved midwifery training program specifically setting forth all courses successfully completed, the date of the applicant's graduation and the degree, certificate, or diploma awarded
- Completed a one-hour educational course on HIV/AIDS that meets the substantive specifications set forth in Section 381.0034, F.S., as it pertains to the practice of midwifery
- Completed a two-hour course relating to the prevention of medical errors
- Provide proof of professional liability insurance coverage in an amount not less than \$100,000 per claim, with a minimum annual aggregate of not less than \$300,000 from an authorized insurer (64B24-7.013)
- A general emergency care plan which meets the requirements of Section 467.017(1), F.S.
- Documentation of a passing score on North American Registry of Midwives' (NARM) written examination, sent directly to the department from the NARM

- Payment of all applicable fees

Requirements for Florida Licensure as a Midwife: Licensure by Endorsement

Applicants with a current, valid, unrestricted certificate or license to practice midwifery in another state may complete FSTM's 4-month Pre-Licensure Course (See Licensure By Endorsement Curriculum section) to obtain a Florida License. Please reference Florida Administrative Code 64B24-2 for more information on the licensure process.

Students with Disabilities Policy

Academic accommodation will be made for students with documented physical, emotional, or learning disabilities. Students with disabilities must provide written documentation of their learning or other disability from a licensed psychologist or other approved health care provider and a written request for academic accommodations.

Requests and documentation should be submitted to the Academic Director as early as possible. Academic accommodations will be determined on an individual basis. Academic accommodations may include, but are not limited to, copies of presentations used during class, permission to record lectures, extended time during exams, and a quiet and separate environment during exams and/or permissions to use assisting technology during exams.

Student Records

• Family Educational Rights and Privacy Act (FERPA)

Annual Notification of Rights under FERPA for Postsecondary Institutions

The Family Educational Rights and Privacy Act (FERPA) affords eligible students certain rights with respect to their education records. (An "eligible student" under FERPA is a student who is 18 years of age or older or who attends a postsecondary institution at any age.) These rights include:

1. The right to inspect and review the student's education records within 45 days after the day the Florida School of Traditional Midwifery (FSTM) receives a request for access. A student should submit the student request to review records to the Financial Aid department. The school official will make arrangements for access and notify the student of the time and place where the records may be inspected.
2. The right to request the amendment of the student's education records that the student believes is inaccurate, misleading, or otherwise in violation of the student's privacy rights under FERPA. A student who wishes to ask FSTM to amend a record should submit a request to amend student record which clearly identifies the part of the record the student wants changed, and specify why it should be changed. If FSTM decides not to amend the record as requested, FSTM will notify the student in writing of the decision and the student's right to a hearing regarding the request for

amendment. Additional information regarding the hearing procedures will be provided to the student when notified of the right to a hearing.

3. The right to provide written consent before FSTM discloses personally identifiable information (PII) from the student's education records, except to the extent that FERPA authorizes disclosure without consent. FSTM discloses education records without a student's prior written consent under the FERPA exception for disclosure to school officials with legitimate educational interests. A school official typically includes a person employed by the FSTM in an administrative, supervisory, academic, research, or support staff position (including law enforcement unit personnel and health staff); a person serving on the board of trustees; or a student serving on an official committee, such as a disciplinary or grievance committee. A school official also may include a volunteer or contractor outside of the FSTM who performs an institutional service of function for which the school would otherwise use its own employees and who is under the direct control of the school with respect to the use and maintenance of PII from education records, such as an attorney, auditor, or collection agent or a student volunteering to assist another school official in performing his or her tasks. A school official typically has a legitimate educational interest if the official needs to review an education record in order to fulfill his or her professional responsibilities for FSTM.

4. The right to file a complaint with the U.S. Department of Education concerning alleged failures by FSTM to comply with the requirements of FERPA. The name and address of the office that administers FERPA is:

Family Policy Compliance Office
U.S. Department of Education
400 Maryland Avenue, SW
Washington, DC 20202

Directory Information

Directory information is information contained in a student's education record that would not generally be considered harmful or an invasion of privacy if disclosed. FERPA requires each institution to define its directory items.

At FSTM, the following information is considered directory information:

- Name
- Address (local, permanent, and electronic mail)
- Telephone numbers
- Class level (semester classification or level: first-year, sophomore, junior, etc)
- Major
- Date(s) of attendance
- Enrollment status (full-time, part-time or not enrolled)
- Date of graduation

Students and parents of dependent students may request FSTM to withhold directory information. The student must complete and sign the Request to Withhold Directory

Information Form available in the Financial Aid department to keep directory information confidential.

FERPA permits the disclosure of PII from students' education records, without consent of the student, if the disclosure meets certain conditions found in § 99.31 of the FERPA regulations. Except for disclosures to school officials, disclosures related to some judicial orders or lawfully issued subpoenas, disclosures of directory information, and disclosures to the student, § 99.32 of FERPA regulations requires the institution to record the disclosure. Eligible students have a right to inspect and review the record of disclosures. A postsecondary institution may disclose PII from the education records without obtaining prior written consent of the student —

- To other school officials, including teachers, within FSTM whom the school has determined to have legitimate educational interests. This includes contractors, consultants, volunteers, or other parties to whom the school has outsourced institutional services or functions, provided that the conditions listed in § 99.31(a)(1)(i)(B)(1) - (a)(1)(i)(B)(3) are met. (§ 99.31(a)(1))
- To officials of another school where the student seeks or intends to enroll, or where the student is already enrolled if the disclosure is for purposes related to the student's enrollment or transfer, subject to the requirements of § 99.34. (§ 99.31(a)(2)) FERPA requires a school to make a reasonable attempt to notify each student of these disclosures.
- To authorized representatives of the U. S. Comptroller General, the U.S. Attorney General, the U.S. Secretary of Education, or State and local educational authorities, such as a State postsecondary authority that is responsible for supervising the university's State-supported education programs. Disclosures under this provision may be made, subject to the requirements of §99.35, in connection with an audit or evaluation of Federal- or State-supported education programs, or for the enforcement of or compliance with Federal legal requirements that relate to those programs. These entities may make further disclosures of PII to outside entities that are designated by them as their authorized representatives to conduct any audit, evaluation, or enforcement or compliance activity on their behalf. (§§ 99.31(a)(3) and 99.35)
- In connection with financial aid for which the student has applied or which the student has received, if the information is necessary to determine eligibility for the aid, determine the amount of the aid, determine the conditions of the aid, or enforce the terms and conditions of the aid. (§ 99.31(a)(4))
- To organizations conducting studies for, or on behalf of, the school, in order to: (a) develop, validate, or administer predictive tests; (b) administer student aid programs; or (c) improve instruction. (§ 99.31(a)(6))
- To accrediting organizations to carry out their accrediting functions. (§ 99.31(a)(7))
- To parents of an eligible student if the student is a dependent for IRS tax purposes. (§ 99.31(a)(8))
- To comply with a judicial order or lawfully issued subpoena. (§ 99.31(a)(9))
- To appropriate officials in connection with a health or safety emergency, subject to § 99.36. (§ 99.31(a)(10))

- Information the school has designated as “directory information” under § 99.37. (§ 99.31(a)(11))
- To a victim of an alleged perpetrator of a crime of violence or a non-forcible sex offense, subject to the requirements of § 99.39. The disclosure may only include the final results of the disciplinary proceeding with respect to that alleged crime or offense, regardless of the finding. (§ 99.31(a)(13))
- To the general public, the final results of a disciplinary proceeding, subject to the requirements of § 99.39, if the school determines the student is an alleged perpetrator of a crime of violence or non-forcible sex offense and the student has committed a violation of the school’s rules or policies with respect to the allegation made against him or her. (§ 99.31(a)(14))
- To parents of a student regarding the student’s violation of any Federal, State, or local law, or of any rule or policy of the school, governing the use or possession of alcohol or a controlled substance if the school determines the student committed a disciplinary violation and the student is under the age of 21. (§99.31(a)(15))

• **Record Retention and Inspection**

All student records are permanently on file at the FSTM Administrative Office. Any student wishing to see her or his records may do so by appointment during office hours. Students and graduates must fill out a Transcript Release Form, and a fee of \$12.00 will be assessed per transcript. Graduates can receive three transcripts at no cost upon graduation.

COURSE DESCRIPTIONS

Below are course descriptions for all FSTM coursework. Prerequisites are noted for each course as well as number of credits and clock hours.

1303 ANTEPARTUM - 4 CREDITS

PREREQUISITES: 1110 MIDWIFERY HISTORY, LAW AND RULE; 1201, 1201L ANATOMY AND PHYSIOLOGY II + LAB; 1203, 1203L HEALTHCARE SKILLS II + LAB; 1301, 1301L REPRODUCTIVE ANATOMY AND PHYSIOLOGY + LAB

This course will provide the student midwife with didactic material necessary to provide care from the initial contact with a client through the onset of labor. The normal pregnancy will be emphasized. Students will explore a wide range of topics including the probable, presumptive and positive signs of pregnancy, deviations from the normal pregnancy, physiologic basis of and solutions for the common discomforts of pregnancy. The student will develop educational materials for use with clients. The class will integrate the medical/midwifery models while providing the foundation for the student to begin her or his evolution toward providing primary care at clinical sites. 60 CLOCK HOURS

1101, 1101L ANATOMY AND PHYSIOLOGY I + LAB - 4 CREDITS

This two-course series presents an in-depth review of the body’s organization and structure. It also introduces the student to basic physiologic concepts as they relate to normal body function and maintenance of health. The laboratory experience demonstrates human and

microscopic anatomic and physiologic processes through drawings and various models. With
LAB 75 CLOCK HOURS

1201, 1201L ANATOMY AND PHYSIOLOGY II + LAB - 4 CREDITS

PREREQUISITES: 1101, 1101L ANATOMY AND PHYSIOLOGY I + LAB

This two-course series presents an in-depth review of the body's organization and structure. It also introduces the student to basic physiologic concepts as they relate to normal body function and maintenance of health. The laboratory experience demonstrates human and microscopic anatomic and physiologic processes through drawings and various models. With
LAB 75 CLOCK HOURS

1205 BREASTFEEDING - 1 CREDIT

PREREQUISITES: 1301, 1301L REPRODUCTIVE ANATOMY AND PHYSIOLOGY + LAB;

COREQUISITES: 2203 POSTPARTUM; 2206 NEWBORN

This course will cover numerous aspects of breastfeeding, including anatomy and physiology, breastfeeding education for clients, proper use of pumping devices, and formulating care plans. The early recognition of simple problems and implementation of solutions will be emphasized. Students will also learn early support intervention techniques and identify referral services. 15 CLOCK HOURS

1200CL, 1300CL, 2100CL, 2200CL, 2300CL, 3100CL, 3200CL, 3300CL, 4100CL, 4200CL, 4300CL, 5100CL CLINICAL LAB - 1-4 CREDITS

Clinical Lab starts in Year 1 Term 2 and continues throughout the midwifery program. Students will be assigned to work directly with a qualified Preceptor. Preceptors are Florida Licensed Midwives, Certified Nurse Midwives, Registered Nurses or Obstetricians who work in home birth practices, birth centers and hospital settings. Clinical experiences will include attending prenatal and postpartum appointments, participation during labor and birth, and learning office procedures for Midwifery practices. Students will progress through a tiered process of observation, assistance and management in the Antepartum, Intrapartum and Postpartum period. The student is responsible for completing 23 Clinical Lab credits throughout the midwifery program. Please see Clinical Policies and Procedures section for additional details. EACH CLINICAL CREDIT IS EQUAL TO 60 CLOCK HOURS (TOTAL 1380).

3202L CLINICAL SKILLS PRACTICUM LAB - 1 CREDIT

PREREQUISITES: 1103, 1103L HEALTHCARE SKILLS I + LAB, 1203, 1203L HEALTHCARE SKILLS II + LAB, 2107 MIDWIFERY PRACTICUM I, 2207 MIDWIFERY PRACTICUM II, 2305 MIDWIFERY PRACTICUM III, 3104 MIDWIFERY PRACTICUM IV

This course involves a comprehensive clinical skills exam made up of selected clinical skills and procedures, as outlined in the most recent edition of the Clinical Skills Exam Study Guide. The course is set up to include a series of skills practice days and ends in a cumulative clinical skills exam. This course is Pass / Fail (see p. 33 for grading policy). 30
CLOCK HOURS

3104 COLLABORATIVE MANAGEMENT - 1 CREDIT

PREREQUISITES: 1110 MIDWIFERY HISTORY, LAW AND RULE; 1305 DIAGNOSTIC TESTING; 1303 ANTEPARTUM; 2103 INTRAPARTUM; 2203 POSTPARTUM; 2206 NEWBORN.

This course will review the indications for consultation, referral and collaborative care according to F.S. 467, the Midwifery Practice Act. Students will explore the role of a Licensed Midwife as a member of a healthcare team while learning skills for communicating as a medical professional. Applying risk assessment from 64 B24 Florida Administrative Code during prenatal, Intrapartum and postpartum care to determine a site and provider for each client will be emphasized. Interpreting data to identify current and potential health problems and needs, establishing a collaboration plan with a physician and ensuring clients' safety and dignity during transport will be discussed. 15 CLOCK HOURS

1108 CULTURAL COMPETENCY - 1 CREDIT

This course provides an introduction to Cultural Competency strategies in a strength-based approach to client care that considers culture in all aspects of assessment, treatment, care and discharge. Participants understand the framework and rationale of being culturally competent, including the use of techniques and to effectively assess clients' strengths and cultural factors that will help to link clients to appropriate and realistic community resources. Students will engage in practical learning by application of skills and techniques. Course work includes lecture, demonstration, case studies, and individual and small group interaction to stimulate students' engagement and practical learning. 15 CLOCK HOURS

1305 DIAGNOSTIC TESTING - 1 CREDIT

COREQUISITES: 1303 ANTEPARTUM

The essence of prenatal care is to monitor the wellbeing of the mother and the developing child. In this course students will become familiar with the most widely utilized lab and imaging tools, including all those required by Florida Law, that are used to assist the midwife in determining the health status of the mother and fetus in order to recognize when intervention is necessary. 15 CLOCK HOURS

3201 ESTABLISHING AND MAINTAINING A PRACTICE - 2 CREDITS

PREREQUISITES: 1110 MIDWIFERY HISTORY, LAW AND RULE; 3RD YEAR ENROLLMENT

This course is an overview of the professional and legal issues related to establishing and maintaining a practice. We will discuss the benefits and problems of working with insurance, HMOs and Medicaid and the requirements of operating a business. The everyday workings and administration of a practice will be explored. Emphasis will be on the expanding role of midwifery within our healthcare system. 30 CLOCK HOURS

1204 HUMAN SEXUALITY FOR MIDWIVES - 2 CREDITS

PREREQUISITES: 1108 CULTURAL COMPETENCY

This course introduces the student to the female sexual system and its contribution to the health and well-being of non-pregnant women, women in each stage of pregnancy, labor, delivery and the postpartum period. Basic female sexual dysfunction is discussed, with training in interviewing and history-taking around sexual issues. Students will observe a pelvic exam. 30 CLOCK HOURS

2104 FETAL MONITORING - 1 CREDIT

COREQUISITES: 2103 INTRAPARTUM

This course is designed to integrate the history, theory and principles of fetal surveillance with practical application of auscultation. Students will gain an understanding of relevant

anatomy and physiology of maternal utero-placental-fetal circulation and uterine function and activity and its effects on fetal oxygenation. Students will also gain an understanding of the oxygen transfer chain and pathophysiology of disrupted oxygen transfer to the fetus. All components of the fetal heart rate will be discussed including: baseline, accelerations, decelerations, variability, and trends over time. 15 CLOCK HOURS

3101 GYNECOLOGY - 2 CREDITS

PREREQUISITES: 1301, 1301L REPRODUCTIVE ANATOMY AND PHYSIOLOGY + LAB; 2201, 2201L MICROBIOLOGY FOR MIDWIVES + LAB

COREQUISITES: 1303 ANTEPARTUM

This course is an introduction to the fundamentals of well woman care. Students will gain the knowledge and skills to provide care, support and information to women regarding their overall reproductive health, including understanding the normal life cycle of women; causes of, evaluation of and treatment for problems associated with the female reproductive system and breasts; information and provisions or referral for various methods of contraception; issues involved in decision-making regarding unwanted pregnancies, and resources for counseling and referral; issues involving infertility; and the interpretation of lab results. 30 CLOCK HOURS

1103, 1103L HEALTHCARE SKILLS I + LAB - 2 CREDITS

This foundation course introduces the theory and performance of basic healthcare skills essential to a career in midwifery. Students will gain an understanding of medical terminology relevant to midwifery and learn to properly chart clients' records; learn to develop healthcare plans; explore principles of body mechanics, utilization of therapeutic communication techniques and aseptic and sterile techniques; be able to assess client hydration and elimination status and identify need for intervention with therapeutic measures; and study administration of relevant medications and prenatal care components. Students will be introduced to physical assessment. A section of this course will cover HIV/AIDS training, which is required by the State of Florida for LM licensure. 45 CLOCK HOURS

1203, 1203L HEALTHCARE SKILLS II + LAB - 3 CREDITS

PREREQUISITES: 1103 HEALTHCARE SKILLS I + LAB

IV training, phlebotomy, pelvic/breast exam training. This course is a continuation of Healthcare Skills I, with emphasis placed on development of advanced healthcare skills relevant to midwifery practice. Students will undertake an in-depth systems approach to physical assessment, interpretation of prenatal data, advanced laboratory technique including venipuncture, neonatal physical assessment and lab work. A section of this course will cover HIV/AIDS training, which is required by the State of Florida for LM licensure. 60 CLOCK HOURS

2205 HERB WORKSHOP - 1 CREDIT

This course is an introduction to the herbs and herbal preparations used by traditional midwives during the childbearing year. Students will learn the properties and parts, methods of preparation, indications and contraindications of most commonly used herbs in midwifery practice. Students will have the opportunity to prepare tinctures, oils and salves during this workshop style class. 15 CLOCK HOURS

1306 INTERPERSONAL COMMUNICATION - 1 CREDIT

PREREQUISITES: 1205 PSYCHOLOGY FOR MIDWIVES

This is the second communication course in a series that continues throughout the first two years of our program. This course focuses on learning non-violent communication. Among other skills, students learn to manage anger, make requests, and identify judgments. Students practice dealing with difficult issues, sharpening their communication skills through role-playing scenarios, crisis management, and developing professionalism. 15 CLOCK HOURS

2103 INTRAPARTUM - 4 CREDITS

PREREQUISITES: 1301, 1301L REPRODUCTIVE ANATOMY AND PHYSIOLOGY + LAB; 1303 ANTEPARTUM.

Midwifery students will learn the steps of the normal labor process including mechanisms of labor and birth. Students will review the anatomy and physiology of the reproductive organs, structures and fetal anatomy, and will learn to assess the wellbeing of mother and child and screen for complications in each stage of labor. Upon completion of the course students will demonstrate knowledge and management of the normal labor and delivery, recognition of complications and use of appropriate interventions, including knowledge of when to transfer. 60 CLOCK HOURS

3204 ISSUES IN PROFESSIONAL MIDWIFERY - 1 CREDIT

PREREQUISITES: 1110 MIDWIFERY HISTORY, LAW AND RULE, 3RD YEAR ENROLLMENT.

This course introduces the senior midwifery student to the current issues that impact the midwifery profession. The role of the midwife as a change agent in her community and in the professional organizations will be emphasized. Current trends in midwifery education, midwifery legislation, public education, third-party reimbursement, ethics, and consumer advocacy will be discussed. The role of Florida Licensed Midwives in national and international issues will also be explored. This capstone course has a research component and ends in a poster session. 15 CLOCK HOURS

2201, 2201L MICROBIOLOGY FOR MIDWIVES + LAB - 2 CREDITS

PREREQUISITES: 1101, 1101L ANATOMY AND PHYSIOLOGY I + LAB; 1201/1201L ANATOMY AND PHYSIOLOGY II + LAB

This course will provide the student with a broad overview of the principles of microbiology and basic immunology necessary for midwifery practice. Students will be encouraged to think critically and will become familiar with interpreting commonly ordered lab reports. Emphasis will be placed on practical application of these scientific principles, including biological mechanisms of prenatal testing and childhood immunizations. With LAB 45 CLOCK HOURS

1110 MIDWIFERY HISTORY, LAW AND RULE - 2 CREDITS

The focus of this course is Florida Statute 467, the Midwifery Practice Act, and 64B24 in the Administrative Code. The law and rule specific to the practice of direct-entry midwives in Florida, the history of the law, the legislative process and the rule-making process will be covered, as well as the role of the Council of Licensed Midwifery, the Department of Health and the Midwives Association of Florida. This course will also provide a historical dimension to the current practice of midwifery in the United States. The multi-faceted roots of U.S.

midwifery will be emphasized, including immigrant midwives, indigenous midwives, rural southern midwifery, the nurse midwife, and the birth renaissance midwife. 30 CLOCK HOURS

MIDWIFERY PRACTICUMS – 1-2 CREDITS (EACH)

PREREQUISITES: 1203, 1203L HEALTHCARE SKILLS II + LAB; EACH PRACTICUM IS A PREREQUISITE FOR THE NEXT PRACTICUM COURSE

In these courses students will meet with their instructor to practice clinical skills taught in the midwifery core classes. A review of material presented in other courses pertaining to clinical skills will be done using skills drills, research projects, student presentations and case reviews. These courses are Pass / Fail (see p. 33 for grading policy). 15-30 CLOCK HOURS (EACH)

- 2107 Midwifery Practicum I (2 credits) - Antepartum, Gynecology & Diagnostic Testing skills practice: Complete review and practice of all antepartum skills.
- 2207 Midwifery Practicum II (2 credits) - Intrapartum and Fetal Monitoring skills practice: Complete review and practice of all intrapartum skills.
- 2305 Midwifery Practicum III (2 credits) - Postpartum and Newborn skills practice: Complete review and practice of all postpartum skills.
- 3105 Midwifery Practicum IV (1 credit) - Obstetric Complications and Suturing skills practice: Complete review and practice of high-level skills.

3103 NARM REVIEW - 1 CREDIT

PREREQUISITES: 3RD YEAR ENROLLMENT

A complete review for the NARM exam, which is the official LM/CPM licensing exam, recognized by national standards and Florida state standards. This course covers student learning and testing styles, as well as a comprehensive study guide and mock exam questions. 15 CLOCK HOURS

2206 NEWBORN - 2 CREDITS

PREREQUISITES: 2103 INTRAPARTUM

COREQUISITES: 2203 POSTPARTUM

In this course the student midwife will learn normal newborn examinations and behavioral assessments, as well as infant anatomy and physiology and common complications affecting the newborn. Also discussed are the signs and symptoms of impending problems, physical exams, routine medications, when to transfer to the NICU and the 24-48 hour home visit. Upon completion the student will be able to perform the complete newborn exam. This module emphasizes the appreciation and beauty of the “amazing newborn” and explores the messages the newborn sends regarding its own health and wellbeing, particularly during the first four hours of life. 30 CLOCK HOURS

2101 NUTRITION FOR THE CHILDBEARING YEAR - 2 CREDITS

PREREQUISITES: 1101, 1101L ANATOMY AND PHYSIOLOGY I + LAB; 1201, 1201L ANATOMY AND PHYSIOLOGY II + LAB

This course will provide the student with a foundation in nutrition and will focus on assessment and counseling skills. Nutritional requirements during pre-pregnancy, pregnancy, lactation, postpartum and infancy will be covered, including topics such as factors that

affect weight gain during pregnancy, care plans for pregnant women with eating disorders, nutritional and fluid demands of women with prolonged labor and many other nutritional topics. The physiological and immunological components of breast milk will also be reviewed. 30 CLOCK HOURS

3106 OBSTETRIC COMPLICATIONS - 1 CREDIT

PREREQUISITES: 1303 ANTEPARTUM; 2103 INTRAPARTUM; 2203 POSTPARTUM; 2206 NEWBORN

COREQUISITES: MIDWIFERY PRACTICUM IV

This course will train students to anticipate, diagnose, and appropriately manage obstetrical complications. During this course, the student will demonstrate knowledge of the normal pregnancy and complications that may occur; mechanisms of labor and delivery; care of the neonate; and the role of the LM in providing care to the mother and infant. 15 CLOCK HOURS

2303 PHARMACOLOGY - 2 CREDITS

PREREQUISITES: 1101, 1101L ANATOMY AND PHYSIOLOGY I + LAB; 1201, 1201L ANATOMY AND PHYSIOLOGY II + LAB; 2201, 2201L MICROBIOLOGY FOR MIDWIVES + LAB

This course presents basic principles of pharmacology and drug therapy for pregnancy, birth and postpartum. Students will explore, among other topics, pharmacodynamics and pharmacokinetics. The goal of this course is to provide a foundation for the Licensed Midwife to function safely in the administration of medicine. 30 CLOCK HOURS

2203 POSTPARTUM - 3 CREDITS

PREREQUISITES: 1303 ANTEPARTUM; 2103 INTRAPARTUM

COREQUISITES: 2206 NEWBORN

In this course the midwifery student will gain an understanding of the normal events that occur immediately postpartum. Also included are the emotional, psychosocial and sexual variations that may occur during this period. The causes of common postpartum discomforts and how to alleviate them will be discussed. Postpartum nutritional requirements, evaluations and counseling of the client will be covered, and students will learn how to monitor the needs of the mother and child in the “fourth trimester,” including conducting the 24 hour, 2 week and 6 week postpartum visits. Upon completion of this class, students will be able to recognize deviations from normal in the postpartum period and respond with appropriate intervention. 45 CLOCK HOURS

2106 PROFESSIONAL COMMUNICATION - 1 CREDIT

PREREQUISITES: 1205 PSYCHOLOGY FOR MIDWIVES; 1306 INTERPERSONAL COMMUNICATION

In the last course of the series, students learn to apply communication skills to their personal and professional relationships in order to become more effective midwives. The role of the midwife as a healer will also be explored. 15 CLOCK HOURS

2105 PSYCHOLOGY FOR MIDWIVES - 2 CREDITS

This course, developed especially for midwives, is the psychological study of the changes that occur in people and their behavior during the lifespan. Special emphasis will be given to women’s development from puberty to menopause, with highlights on the normal

psychology of women during pregnancy, childbirth and postpartum. Other specific topics include body image and eating disorders, sexual abuse, intimate partner violence, fatherhood and psychological responses to unexpected birth outcomes such as miscarriage, stillbirth, fetal death and cesarean birth. 30 CLOCK HOURS

1109 RESEARCH AND PUBLIC HEALTH - 2 CREDITS

This course will review the structure of the Public Health System at the federal, state and local level and how it relates to the community, the prevention of disease, illnesses and mortality rate. Students will not only learn disease identification, they will also explore the reasons for required prenatal and postnatal testing and the procedures involved in counseling and prevention techniques, including statistics, policy making and legislation. This course is also designed to give the student a basic introduction to the types, quality, and formats of scholarly research. Students will evaluate articles presented in peer-reviewed journals, will discuss primary, secondary, and tertiary sources, will discuss how research presented might apply to midwifery practice, and will be introduced briefly to the principles of statistics as they pertain to medical research. The course will also cover JAMA citation style as it is used in documenting sources in literature reviews, papers, and other academic documents. This course is geared toward preparing the student for the research portion of subsequent courses and guiding evidence based practice. 30 CLOCK HOURS

1301, 1301L REPRODUCTIVE ANATOMY AND PHYSIOLOGY + LAB - 4 CREDITS

PREREQUISITES: 1201, 1201L ANATOMY AND PHYSIOLOGY II + LAB

This is a basic science course developed for midwifery students. It is one of the foundations for courses in clinical management. It will build on knowledge gained in the Anatomy and Physiology course to provide an in-depth understanding of pregnancy, birth and lactation from a biophysical perspective. With LAB 75 CLOCK HOURS

2204 SUTURING FOR MIDWIVES - 1 CREDIT

PREREQUISITES: 1301, 1301L REPRODUCTIVE ANATOMY AND PHYSIOLOGY + LAB; 2103 INTRAPARTUM.

This course is designed to integrate theory and principles of suturing and wound healing with practical experience and knot tying techniques on laboratory models. Students will gain an understanding of relevant anatomy and physiology, causation and prevention of lacerations, severity of wounds, pre-suturing assessments, relaxation techniques to be used during the suturing process, postpartum assessment of the sutured area and teaching techniques to aid the client in facilitating the healing process. Principles of asepsis and anesthesia will also be covered. Learning objectives will be met through a combination of lecture material, reading assignments, hands-on practice, and visual aids. 15 CLOCK HOURS

1107 FLORIDA LAW AND RULE (LBE ONLY) – 1 CREDIT

The focus of this course is Florida Statute 467, the Midwifery Practice Act, and 64B24 in the Administrative Code. The law and rule specific to the practice of direct-entry midwives in Florida, the history of the law, the legislative process and the rule making process will be covered, as well as the role of the Council of Licensed Midwifery, the Department of Health and the Midwives Association of Florida. 15 CLOCK HOURS

4101 MIDWIFERY CORE (LBE ONLY) – 5 CREDITS

Provides prospective Florida LMs with a review of core antepartum, intrapartum, postpartum, and newborn topics through the lens of Florida Law and Rule. Prepares students for the state licensure exam (NARM Exam) if necessary.

4102 PREPARATION FOR PRACTICE (LBE ONLY) – 1 CREDIT

Covers required information for licensure as a Florida Licensed Midwife. Topics include intimate partner violence (domestic violence), HIV/AIDS and other blood borne pathogens, and preventing medical errors. Additional topics include other licensure requirements such as Emergency Care Plans, establishing credentialing with Florida Medicaid and other 3rd party reimbursement, and liability insurance coverage needs.

4103 CLINICAL PRACTICUM FOR LBE (LBE ONLY) – 1 CREDIT

Provides the prospective Florida Licensed Midwife with demonstration of selected midwifery skills. Skills covered span the antepartum, intrapartum, and postpartum/newborn timeframe.

4104 CULTURAL COMPETENCY FOR FL MIDWIVES (LBE ONLY) – 1 CREDIT

Provides the prospective Florida Licensed Midwife with an overview of cultural competency topics relevant to the population they will serve in Florida.

4105CL CLINICAL LAB (LBE ONLY) – 6 CREDITS

Midwifery practice under supervision with an FSTM-approved preceptor. LBE students must complete 10 supervised prenatal exams and 10 supervised births. 1 CREDIT = 30 CLOCK HOURS

MIDWIVES MODEL OF CARE

The Midwives Model of Care™ is a fundamentally different approach to pregnancy and childbirth than contemporary obstetrics. Midwifery care is uniquely nurturing, hands-on care before, during, and after birth. Midwives are health care professionals specializing in pregnancy and childbirth who develop a trusting relationship with their clients, which results in confident, supported labor and birth. While there are different types of midwives practicing in various settings, all midwives are trained to provide comprehensive prenatal care and education, guide labor and birth, address complications, and care for newborns. The Midwives Model of Care™ is based on the fact that pregnancy and birth are normal life events. The application of this model has been proven to reduce the incidence of birth injury, trauma, and cesarean section.

The Midwives Model of Care includes:

- Monitoring the physical, psychological, and social well-being of the mother throughout the childbearing cycle
- Providing the mother with individualized education, counseling, prenatal care, continuous hands-on assistance during labor and delivery, and postpartum support
- Minimizing technological interventions

- Identifying and referring women who require obstetrical attention

This model of care meets standards set by the World Health Organization (WHO), which defines skilled maternal and neonatal care as: close to where and how [mothers and newborns] live, close to their birthing culture, but at the same time safe, with a skilled professional able to act immediately when complications occur (WHO, 2005, p. xxi). The WHO states that this care can best be provided by a registered midwife, or a professional health worker with equivalent skills, in midwife-led facilities. The WHO goes on to explain that professional midwives can avert, contain, or solve many of the largely unpredictable life-threatening problems that may arise during childbirth, while working collaboratively with the higher level of care offered by physicians and hospitals when mothers present problems that go beyond a midwife's competency or equipment (WHO, 2005, p. xxi).



FLORIDA SCHOOL OF
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