

Birth Doula Services Agreement

This agreement is between **@Client Name** ("Client", "You", "the Birthing Person") and Little Arrows Birth & Doula Services ("Doula", "I", "We") governing the provision of Doula Services to the client.

I, **@Client Name** and my Husband/Birth Partner have discussed and reviewed our wishes and plans for the birth of our child/children with the Doula. After this discussion and review, the parties agree as follows:

A.The Prenatal Visit:

1. The Doula will provide one visit before the birth at which the parties shall discuss; a proposed birth plan, your priorities, any fears or concerns, and relevant history that reflects the needs and desires of the Birthing Person and Husband/Birth Partner.
2. The Doula will also inform **@Client Name** of times when they are unavailable for labor support. To cover those times, the Doula will arrange one or more qualified backup Doulas with whom you may also have contact.

B. The Doula:

1. The Doula is independent, self-employed, and works for **@Client Name** and Husband/Birth Partner.
2. The Doula will adhere to the Standard of Practice and Code of Ethics of DONA International on the organization's website.
3. The Doula will support the decisions of **@Client Name** and Husband/Birth Partner within the limits of the Doula's expertise.
4. During the birth plan session, the Doula will present evidence-based information on the risks and benefits of common interventions and procedures during childbirth.
5. The Doula will not perform any clinical/medical procedures or make decisions regarding medical care for **@Client Name** and the baby.
6. The Doula can help facilitate communication with your care provider to ensure you have the information you need to make informed decisions regarding your baby's birth. The Doula can provide reassurance and perspective to **@Client Name** and Husband/ Birth Partner, make suggestions for labor progress, and help with relaxation, massage, positioning, and other techniques for your comfort.
7. The Doula will be on call 24 hours a day from 38-42 weeks gestation. If you happen to go into labor before or after this period, the Doula will make every effort to be there.
8. The Doula will be available by email, phone, or text during the listed office hours until 12 weeks postpartum. If there is an emergency, call 911, your Obstetric Gynecologist, or your Midwife as appropriate. You may then contact your Doula.
9. If the Doula is not available, the backup Doula will attend. This contract extends to the backup Doula.

10. The Doula shall strive to create a calm and peaceful environment within the circumstances allowed by the location.
11. The Doula will remain with the Mother for at least one hour after the baby's birth.

C. Mother and Husband/Birth Partner

1. @Client Name [redacted] or Husband/Birth Partner agrees to contact the Doula at the earliest onset of labor. The Doula will answer questions, make suggestions over the phone, and help the Mother and Husband/Birth Partner decide when to request the Doula's attendance. @Client's Initials [redacted]
2. @Client Name [redacted] agrees to update the Doula with any pertinent information regarding their health and pregnancy after each visit with the care provider. @Client's Initials [redacted]
3. @Client Name [redacted] will advise where the Doula should report to begin the labor support. The Doula will report within 2 hours of @Client Name [redacted]'s request. Except for extraordinary circumstances and those expressly outlined in this contract, the Doula will remain with you throughout your labor and birth. @Client's Initials [redacted]
4. If the Doula or backup Doula can't attend the birth, LABS will provide alternate labor support.
5. @Client Name [redacted] and Husband/Birth Partner agrees to give the Doula permission to discuss your pregnancy and birth with perinatal professionals formally and informally. @Client's Initials [redacted]
6. The Doula requests that you inform her of any pregnancy or related health complications or conditions you may have, as well as any other particular circumstances you have or might require support for or that may put the health of the Doula at risk. @Client's Initials [redacted]
7. If @Client Name [redacted] intends to schedule any form of induction, membrane sweep, catheter, pitocin, or c-section, you are required, unless there is an emergency, to contact and advise the Doula of the scheduled date before booking induction. If @Client Name [redacted] fails to do this, support can not be guaranteed. @Client's Initials [redacted]

D. Fees for Services

1. The fee for labor support is @Service Fee (BD) [redacted]. This payment includes one prenatal visit, self-scheduled postpartum follow-up (limited to 1 hour), email, text, and phone support, and the 18 contracted hours of face-to-face labor/cesarean support. A deposit is required to secure your date. You may pay in full. Payments can be made by cash, check, or Venmo on request. Other payment methods and payment plans can be discussed and arranged if necessary. Payment is required in full no later than 34 weeks gestation. Your date is not secured until your deposit is received. Please note that this service is nonrefundable.

2. Additional labor support beyond the 18 contracted face-to-face hours will be billed at \$20 per hour. This fee will be billed up to 10 weeks after the delivery, and payment is required within 21 days.
3. The Doula reserves the right after 18 hours to call in support of a Backup Doula to provide a break or complete the birth.
4. At the signing of this contract, it is assumed that none of us can anticipate the type of labor and birth you will have. As a business, we can only contract with a few clients in any particular time frame (for fear of missing someone's birth and not meeting their needs). We cannot fill our calendar and then change fees according to how births occur. We are as committed to short-laboring clients as we are to long-laboring clients and have been considered tremendous assets to families requiring a cesarean section. Pre-op, recovery, bonding, and breastfeeding can be challenging. Precipitous births and unplanned cesareans are, therefore, not grounds for refunds.
5. Should @Client Name or Husband/Birth Partner fails to notify the Doula two hours before the requested report time, and the Doula misses the birth, LABS will retain the full fee.
6. A prorated fee may be refunded if the Doula misses the child's birth due to reporting to the delivery more than two hours after the Mother's request, not due to Acts of God or the Government.
7. Fees will not be refunded if the Doula cannot attend the birth due in any way to COVID-19 and its impact on Medical Facilities and Care Providers unless by explicit and written agreement.
8. The Doula reserves the right to terminate the contract immediately with no refunds if she feels @Client Name, Husband/Birth Partner, or their family and friends are being abusive in any way, physically, emotionally, or mentally.
9. A travel fee may apply if you are beyond the 30-minute service radius.

E. Liability

1. By signing this contract, @Client Name and Husband/Birth Partner agrees to hire Angel B Tansley, doing business as LABS, as their Doula (Labor Support) Services provider. They understand that LABS may provide services in their home, when traveling to a medical facility, or in a hospital.
2. @Client Name and Husband/Birth Partner acknowledges that LABS has a limited role and is not responsible for medical decisions, including when to seek medical care.
3. @Client Name and Husband/Birth Partner also acknowledges that LABS does not guarantee a risk-free or emergency-free labor and birth experience.
4. By signing this contract, @Client Name and Husband/Birth Partner agrees to release and forever discharge LABS from any damages or causes of action that may result from using their services.
5. @Client Name and Husband/Birth Partner confirm that they have read and understood the terms of the agreement and any supplement and that they are entering into a Client-Doula relationship with LABS for pregnancy and birth.

