

DONA International Doula Trainer Workshop Fellowship Program

The DONA International Doula Trainer Workshop Fellowship Program is a unique effort to identify women outside of the United States who would train to become DONA International approved birth or postpartum doula trainers. This Program seeks to increase DONA International's trainer diversity so that workshops in countries outside of the United States are facilitated in the most culturally appropriate manner. Additionally, this Program seeks to support individuals in the international community wishing to create labor support programs within their own communities.

Childbirth educators, doulas, midwives, lactation professionals and physicians are eligible to apply. An individual's overall experience in the maternity care field in addition to, or in lieu of, formal training will be considered as a qualifying factor for this Program. Fellowships will be granted to qualified applicants at any level in the doula training process, regardless of whether the applicant has already attended a DONA approved doula workshop; however, priority will be given to those individuals who have a prior connection with DONA International. For those interested in applying, please refer to the Qualifications section of this document for further guidelines, information and directions on how to apply.

Those chosen will be awarded:

- Roundtrip airfare to and from Atlanta, Georgia, U.S.A. to attend the 15th Annual DONA International Conference and Doula Trainer Workshops on August 6-12, 2009. (Transportation to and from the airport is included.)
- Hotel accommodations during the 15th Annual DONA International Conference and Doula Trainer Workshops. A double room will be shared with one other Program recipient.
- Full Conference registration fee waiver for the 15th Annual DONA International Conference.
- Workshop fee waiver for the DONA International Birth OR Postpartum Doula Trainer Workshop immediately following the 15th Annual DONA International Conference, which includes mandatory attendance at the related Doula Workshop.

Applicant's responsibility:

- Applicants must cover the cost of their own travel insurance if it is desired.
- * Personal expenses, including spending money and meals other than those provided during the Conference and workshops, are excluded from this Program.
- Cost and arrangement of ground transportation to the airport within the applicant's home country is the responsibility of the applicant.

Qualifications for successful candidates:

- Must currently be a DONA International member in good standing or may join prior to, or as part of, the Program application process.
- Must be comfortable with, able to and responsible at being an official representative of DONA International.
- Must display ethical and professional behavior.
- Must have a computer with Internet accessibility and possess computer skills.
- Must possess a valid passport and visa, if necessary.
- Must have the ability to read, write, understand and speak English. (Fluency is not required; however, please note that translators will not be provided for you. Therefore, it is imperative that you have the capacity to understand everything being presented during the Conference and Workshop.)
- Work experience: Must provide evidence of having worked as a professional in the field of maternal/child health for five (5) or more years (these years can include time spent in an education/certification program) OR provided labor or postpartum support to thirty (30) families as a professional or volunteer. (Examples: birth or postpartum doula, midwife, physician, lactation specialist, etc.)
- Teaching experience: Must provide evidence of training and/or certification as a childbirth educator OR having provided two hundred (200) hours of education/support facilitation in the field of maternal-child health.

The following steps in the process to become a DONA approved doula trainer must be completed AFTER attending the DONA birth or postpartum doula workshop in Atlanta:

- Creation of a teaching agenda/schedule (including breaks) that verifies sixteen (16) hours, based on a sixty (60) minute hour or a total of 960 minutes, of instruction time.
- Creation of a detailed doula workshop outline (see template for Doula Training Curriculum).
- A list of titles, length and content of any videos or slide presentations to be used in the doula workshop.
- A description of how DONA International's Standards of Practice and Code of Ethics will be conveyed to doula workshop participants.

- A list of all doula workshop handout titles, submitting ONLY copies of non-DONA International handouts.
- Description of any prerequisites required of participants before attending the doula workshop and evidence that non-professionals will be allowed to attend.
- A list of referral sources in the area where the trainer is located.
- Signed verification that the trainer has read all policies regarding DONA International doula trainer approval status.

The application process:

All applicants must submit their documents electronically via e-mail to the DONA Director of International Development and by postal mail to the DONA International Home Office. The application must be **emailed** no later than **June 15, 2009** to InternationalDevelopment@DONA.org. Following electronic submission, please also send hard copy originals by postal mail to the DONA International Home Office, PO Box 626, Jasper, IN 47547 USA.

If all documents are not completed by this time, please let us know where you are in the process so that we can work with you as your documentation is finalized. If you have any questions regarding the application process, please do not hesitate to contact Nicole Heidbreder, DONA Director of International Development at 917-528-1855 or InternationalDevelopment@DONA.org.

PLEASE NOTE: Applications must be written in English, with the exception of your letters of recommendation. Although it is preferred that the letters of recommendation be written in English, we understand that it might not be possible, so we will accept them in any language. DONA International will have these documents translated into English. ***It is imperative that you understand that the Conference and the Workshops will be carried out in English and that no simultaneous translations will be provided at any point during the Conference or the Workshops.***

Application documents:

1. A 2,000 (or less) word letter of intent covering goals and intentions for how you will utilize the Program, which should include:
 - Demonstration of completion of the above qualifications for a successful candidate,
 - How you intend to use the Program – where, how and with what population you will offer doula workshops,
 - Demonstrate a working knowledge of the responsibilities of the Program (stating that you have the time and the resources to follow through with not only the training but with the entire doula trainer approval process),

- Express a desire to serve as a representative of DONA International in your home country as well as demonstrate ethical and professional behavior,
 - List former accomplishments and qualifications that you believe make you a good candidate for us to support you in becoming a DONA approved birth or postpartum doula trainer,
 - Explain why you think you qualify as the recipient of the Program, including skills you could bring to your position as a DONA approved birth or postpartum doula trainer,
2. Resume or curriculum vitae complete with three (3) telephone reference contacts of people who can attest to your organization skills, leadership abilities and teaching abilities,
 3. Three (3) (minimum/maximum) letters of recommendation from people other than those who are your telephone references.

Be sure to keep a copy of all your application documents for your records and in case your application is lost in the mail. You will receive an e-mail acknowledging receipt of your application packet. If you have any questions or need clarification of the application procedure, please contact Nicole Heidbreder, DONA Director of International Development at 917-528-1855 or InternationalDevelopment@DONA.org.

Your application must be sent in two (2) formats:

1. An electronic copy of documents e-mailed to Nicole Heidbreder, DONA Director of International Development at InternationalDevelopment@DONA.org.
2. A hard copy of all original documents mailed to:
Director of International Development
DONA International
PO Box 626
Jasper, IN 47547 U.S.A.