

The DONA International Doulas of Color Trainer Workshop Fellowship Program is an initiative to identify women of color in 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 the United States are facilitated in the most culturally appropriate manner. Additionally, this Program seeks to support individuals wishing to create labor and postpartum support programs within their own communities. 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. Fellows will be provided with a mentor to help guide them through the Program. 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 Albuquerque, New Mexico , U.S.A. to attend the 16th Annual DONA International Conference and Doula Trainer Workshops on August 5-11, 2010. (Transportation to and from the airport within the U.S.A. is included.)
- Hotel accommodations during the 16th 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 16th Annual DONA International Conference.
- Workshop fee waiver for the DONA International Birth OR Postpartum Doula Trainer Workshop immediately following the 16th 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:

- Must currently be a DONA International member in good standing or may join as part of the Program application process.
- Must be comfortable with, able to, and responsible for being an official representative of DONA International.
- Must display ethical and professional behavior.
- Must have access to a computer with Internet accessibility and possess computer skills.
- Work experience: Must provide evidence (list of experience and dates) of having worked as a professional in the field of maternal/child health for a minimum of three (3) years (can include time spent in an education/training program) and/or having provided birth or postpartum support to thirty (30) families on a volunteer or paid basis.
- Teaching experience: Must provide evidence (list dates) of training and/or certification as a childbirth educator OR having provided two hundred (200) hours of formal or peer education/support with women and families.

Post-Training Guidelines:

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 Albuquerque:

- If upon receiving this fellowship you are not already a DONA certified birth or postpartum doula, you will need to complete those steps toward certification after attending the Conference and Workshop. (Please note that one component of the Doula Trainer Workshop is mandatory attendance at the related Doula Workshop, so your training requirement for certification as a birth or postpartum doula will be met as part of your Doula Trainer Workshop.) Please refer to the “Certification Overview” page on the DONA International web site at www.DONA.org for a suggested timeline and a detailed list of the steps that must be completed to become a DONA certified birth or postpartum doula.
- 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). Please note: **Many individuals find it takes approximately 9 - 12 months AFTER attending the Doula Trainer Workshop to complete their curriculum. Writing one’s own curriculum is a very rewarding and yet time consuming process. You must understand this commitment before embarking on the path to become a trainer.**
- A list of titles, length and content of any videos or slide presentations to be used in the DONA approved doula workshop.

- A specific description of how DONA International's Standards of Practice and Code of Ethics will be conveyed to doula workshop participants.
- A list of all DONA approved doula workshop handouts and submission of copies of non-DONA International handouts.
- Description of any prerequisites required of participants before attending the DONA approved doula workshop, and evidence that non-professionals will be allowed to attend.
- A list of referral sources in the area where the DONA approved doula workshop will be held.
- Signed verification that the trainer has read all policies regarding DONA International doula trainer approval status.

Application Documents:

1. A letter of intent outlining goals and intentions for how you will utilize the Program. Your letter of intent should be no more than 2,000 words and include the following:
 - Demonstrate having completed the above qualifications.
 - How you intend to utilize your status as a DONA approved doula trainer – where, how, and with what population(s) you will offer DONA approved doula workshops.
 - Demonstrate a working knowledge of the responsibilities of the Program, verifying that you have the time and the resources to follow through with the training and the entire doula trainer approval process. It is critical that you understand that attending the Doula Trainer Workshop is the BEGINNING of a process that takes most individuals approximately one (1) year to complete, and that writing the curriculum for a DONA approved doula workshop is an immense undertaking.
 - Express a desire to serve as a representative of DONA International, including demonstrating ethical and professional behavior.
 - List previous accomplishments and qualifications that you believe make you a good candidate to become a DONA approved birth or postpartum doula trainer.
 - Explain why you qualify to receive a fellowship through the Program, including skills you could bring to your position as a DONA approved birth or postpartum doula trainer.
2. Resume complete with three (3) references (name and telephone number) who can attest to your organization skills, leadership abilities, and/or teaching abilities.
3. Two (2) 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 Michelle-Nicholle Calareso, Multicultural Director of DONA International at 303-775-8305 or Multicultural@DONA.org.

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

1. An electronic copy of documents e-mailed to Michelle-Nicholle Calareso, Multicultural Director of DONA International at Multicultural@DONA.org.
2. A hard copy of all original documents mailed to:

Michelle-Nicholle Calareso
DONA Director of International Development
PO Box 626
Jasper, IN 47547