

Doula UK's Membership Policy

There are 3 categories of membership as follows:

- 1) **Recognised Doula**
- 2) **Trainee Doula**
- 3) **Friend of Doula UK**

(1) **Recognised Doula** - a Doula who is experienced (and who *has* completed a Doula UK recognised course/s), who has read and signed to say that they agree with Doula UK's Philosophy, Code of Conduct and other Policies/Procedures, and who has been "Recognised" by Doula UK as having attained a particular level of learned skills and experience - membership fee £50.00. In order to become "Recognised", 4 Client Response forms of birth or postnatal work carried out, using the Doula UK format must be submitted. On submission of this documentation, the Doula will meet with her assessor for a face to face interview. This is to ensure that the doula is in agreement with our Philosophy and to explore the work already completed. Upon successful completion of the assessment process, the doula will be able to advertise herself as a Doula UK Recognised Doula enjoying the full support of the network - assessment will cost an additional *£100.00 to the usual membership fee of £50.00. **Assessment costs will be in addition to the £50.00 membership fee.** *The fees for assessment are £20 per birth report and £20 for the Recognition Interview i.e. £100. Discuss with your AM whether she would prefer you to pay this as you progress or at the end of the process. If you are doing postnatal work as well you may be able to complete together with one interview (£180) otherwise it will be £100 for each process. *Please note, if it is necessary for you to undertake more than 4 births to complete your Recognition, your AM will not charge any extra. The doula must work in the UK.*

(2) **Trainee Doula** - a trainee Doula who must have completed a Doula UK recognised course/s (and has supplied Doula UK with copies of references and/or evidence of that training) but who has not yet gained enough work experience to apply to be a "recognised doula". The Doula will not yet be able to be advertised on the Doula UK website as a Recognised Doula. Her name will appear as 'trainee doula' allowing her to offer her services, we **suggest**, at a reduced fee (expenses only for birth work and reduced hourly rate for postnatal work) until you have fulfilled the necessary criteria for recognition - membership fee £50.00. **Assessment costs will be in addition to the £50.00 membership fee.** The fees for assessment are £20 per birth report and £20 for the Recognition Interview i.e. £100. Discuss with your AM whether she would prefer you to pay this as you progress or at the end of the process. If you are doing postnatal work as well you may be able to complete together with one Interview (£180) otherwise it will be £100 for each process. *Please note, if it is necessary for you to undertake more than 4 births to complete your Recognition, your AM will not charge any extra. The doula must work in the UK.*

Please be made aware that if you have completed a Doula UK Recognised doula training course and give permission on your membership form, your contact information will be added to our website as a Trainee Doula so that parents-to-be in your area can get in touch with you.

However you do need to make contact with your Assessor/Mentor for this to be initiated. We have Assessor/Mentors around the country and when you have made contact with yours, to begin the process to become a Recognised Doula, she will confirm that your details can be displayed on the website. You will receive details about how to make contact with your Assessor/Mentor once you have joined Doula UK.

(3) **Friend of Doula UK** - those who are not working doulas but who are interested in and want to support our network and wish to receive our regular newsletter and e-news can become "Friend of Doula UK" by simply completing the necessary sections of the membership application form and paying a subscription fee of £20.00. This category of membership may include individuals who would like to become doulas in the future but who, as yet, have no training or experience. The fee for overseas "Friends" is £25.00 to cover the extra cost of postage for the newsletter.

Depending on what category of membership you hold will determine what other benefits you receive:

Benefit of membership	Recognised doula	Trainee doula	Friend of Doula UK
Postal newsletter (3 times per year)	✓	✓	✓
Discounted access to Doula UK Study Days/Events and Other Activities	✓	✓	✓
Regular email news/updates	✓	✓	✓
Membership of regional group nearest to you	✓	✓	✓
Access to Members' Section of website	✓	✓	✓
Doula UK professionally produced leaflet to use with your clients (to buy)	✓	✓	
Access to Doula Online Forum	✓	✓	
Name and Contact Info can be displayed on "Find A Doula" section of website	✓	✓	
Option to have "Doulaography" (profile about doula work) - at additional £10 per year with format www.doula.org.uk/about/yourname	✓	✓	
Discounted insurance scheme only available via DUK for DUK doulas	✓	✓	

Please note: For ease of administration (because we are volunteers) membership for all runs from January 1st - December 31st in any given year. Also please be aware that all records submitted to Doula UK will be handled in strictest confidence and kept in a secure place.