



a place of mind
THE UNIVERSITY OF BRITISH COLUMBIA



Clinical Placement Location

All Midwifery clinical placements will occur in British Columbia with a few discrete exceptions. Student requests for MIDW 350 or 380 placements in other provinces and territories may be considered. Students who elect to take MIDW 370 travel to established global placements, supported by UBC Midwifery faculty, which at the time of this writing, is located in Nepal or Uganda.

Students WILL have to move residence during the program, usually more than once. All living and travel expenses associated with attending clinical placements are the responsibility of the student.

Rural Requirement

Purpose

Students must complete at least one clinical placement in a rural community (and at least one placement in an urban community). While there continue to be insufficient clinical placement sites in major centres to accommodate the number of students requiring placements each year, additional intentions of this requirement are:

- a) to ensure rurally-located practices have the opportunity to precept students, and to reduce the precepting load on urban-located practices,
- b) to ensure all students gain some experience in both rural and urban practice in BC,
- c) to ensure all students have a higher likelihood of gaining experience providing care to people living in rural First Nations and Métis Settlement communities, and
- d) to ensure the financial and personal impact of needing to relocate outside their home communities for placements was distributed amongst all students, regardless of home community location.

Situations may present (such as the COVID-19 pandemic) where the number of rural placement sites is reduced. In such cases, the program reserves the right to modify the rural requirement.

Definition of Rural/Remote Placement Location

For the purpose of the UBC Midwifery program, rural community placements may be defined according to several factors that influence care. Definition of rural location is informed by several factors, including:

- 1) [PSBC tier of service](#) less than 4,
- 2) the context of the geography,
- 3) the service volume,
- 4) the distance from an urban setting or
- 5) the distance from a higher level of care
- 6) the location/geography of the community primarily served by the practice.

As a program we are continually striving to determine more detailed criteria of what constitutes a “rural placement.” This can be difficult to delineate, because of the many factors that go make up clinical placement sites in various communities, and the definition is not static. The Medical Undergrad Program (MDUP), for example, states,

We are particularly interested in northern, Interior, and/or rural experiences, so we encourage you to include these on your application, even if you are not sure the location is ‘rural enough.’

This goes for all applicants interested in this section, in fact – we evaluate rurality internally, so if you believe something is relevant to this section of the application, please include it even if you are unsure about the location. (MD Undergraduate Program, UBC, [Rural and/or Northern Training Section](#))

Some examples of rural placement locations in the Midwifery Program are as follows. Others may arise in future, which are not on this list. If the designation of a particular community is unclear, the Clinical Placement Coordinator will define it according to this policy, and with input from the Midwifery Student Support Committee, as needed.

Campbell River	Invermere	Revelstoke *
Chilliwack	Kaslo	Roberts Creek *
Comox	Nelson	Salt Spring Island
Courtney	New Hazelton	Salmon Arm
Cranbrook	Old Massett *	Terrace
Creston	Penticton	Tlell *
Duncan	Port Alberni *	Trail
Fort St John	Port Hardy	Vernon
Gabriola Island	Powell River	William’s Lake
Gray Creek	Prince George	

**Practices with low volume – no current opportunity for placement*

Wherever possible, students will complete their rural requirement in a regular midwifery placement. In some cases, the rural requirement may be accomplished through a MIDW 350 or 380 placement.