



a place of mind
THE UNIVERSITY OF BRITISH COLUMBIA



Clinical Placement Allocation Procedure

The goal of clinical placement allocation is to find midwifery preceptors and practices that meet students' developing learning needs and provide them opportunities to learn the [core practice competencies for midwives published by the Canadian Midwifery Regulators Council](#). The Midwifery Program website notifies prospective students of the [requirement to move](#) during midwifery studies. Students are informed upon offer of admission to the Midwifery Bachelor Degree Program that the Program is unable to guarantee student requests and that students will need to move for placements dependent on preceptor availability and their learning needs.

The clinical allocation procedure includes a pre-placement survey that gives students the opportunity to communicate any special learning needs, any potential conflicts of interest, and their geographical preferences. A section of the survey provides students the opportunity to describe other pertinent facts related to placement such as court orders.

Once legal requirements for meeting special learning needs have been accommodated, student placement follows a randomized lottery system. Each class is a lottery pool. Students closest to graduation have placement priority. Fourth year placements are completed first, then 3rd year and 2nd year. Students are informed of the match for the next academic term once the placements have been confirmed with the clinical preceptors for the full cohort.

The target dates for class notification of clinical placements are:

- 4th Year – May 31st
- 3rd Year – June 15th
- 2nd Year – July 15th

If the program is unable to meet these notification targets, students will receive a revised placement timeline.

Other clinical placement considerations include:

- **Students with individual learning needs** that require certain practice opportunities such as higher home birth rates. Once the randomized allocations have been completed, the coordinator will ensure that students with specific learning needs are assigned to placements that match these learning needs.
- **The program's goal is for all placements to be culturally safe.** BIPOC students will be given consideration for placements which provide an anti-racist lens to midwifery care and a safe learning environment. Indigenous students will receive priority for placements in their Nation's territory, their identified community, or a designated Indigenous placement site when available.
- **Student exposure to different preceptors and practices.** Students will be placed with a minimum of two different placement sites/preceptors over the course of the program. Placement sites and preceptors for students in year 3 will be different from those for 4th year.

- **Expense and effort involved in student moves.** Every effort will be made to place students in the same practice for both terms of an academic year. This is not always possible, and students must be prepared to have two different placements sites in the same year.

Although clinical preceptors receive an honorarium from the Ministry of Health for clinical teaching, they volunteer to share their practices with students. UBC Midwifery and students must be responsive to preceptor practice changes that include staff changes, preceptor vacations, and health leaves. Students are both learners and guests at their assigned clinical placements with the responsibilities of a registered midwife. Students who need a short, temporary leave during a term or who must leave a clinical placement during a term are expected to give the practice a minimum of two weeks' written notice once the leave is approved by the Midwifery Student Support Committee. Emergency leaves will be managed on an ad hoc basis.