



ADC
Community
Information

Australian
Doula College
HONOURING LIFE'S TRANSITIONS



RTO Code 41475

About the community

At the Australian Doula College we strongly believe in the importance of ongoing support and education for those working in the doula space.

We believe it's important for clients and their families to know their doula is updating their skills regularly and is a part of a trusted and supportive community. Being a member of the ADC is a great way to remain supported and mentored while you are working as a doula.

You can become a member of the community as a student and as a qualified doula.

Your investment is \$110 per year for graduates and \$50 for one year for students. Certificate IV students receive one year of Student Membership FREE.

We know that community and support in real time is everything, which is why our members can contact us anytime.

To become a community member you need:

- To have an ADC doula training qualification or be enrolled to study with us
- Have a current Working With Children Check and CPR Certificate



About the community

Qualified Doula Directory Listing

Get listed on our directory! Your photo, bio, direct links to your email and socials, so clients can reach you directly on our website.

Online Community Group

We have a closed Facebook group where you can connect with other doulas, share ideas and thoughts in a safe place.

Access to the ADC 24/7 on-call phone

Got a time sensitive question or need support in real time? Call us 24/7. Extremely handy and comforting to have the support of an experienced Doula when you are with clients and families.

Support from our team

Got a questions or need some general advice, we are here for you. You can access our question box at any time through our website as a Community member.

Use of the ADC Member Badge

The ADC Member Badges are available for student and community members to use. This shows affiliation with the College when you are promoting your services.

Doula Heart Network + Groundwork Program

Community members can sign up to volunteer for the Doula Heart Network or apply to join the Groundwork Program as a paid contractor assisting vulnerable women, babies and their support network.

Monthly E-Newsletters

Apply to be featured in the Member Offering section of the ADC-'Let's Doula This' newsletter for further promotion.

Events and Social Media

'Members only' invitations to attend local events with us to promote the work of doulas, the College and of course, yourself. We promote our community members through our social media channels, regular posts and sharing your tagged content.

Early bird access and special offers

Members will have the opportunity for early bird access to ADC events such as our annual retreat, and access to special offers throughout the year to say thank you for being part of the community.

Affiliation and Partnerships

We have cultivated a number of affiliations and partnerships over the years which will be of benefit to you in your doula business, including insurance and more.

Resource Centre

Access to our 'members only' resource centre with monthly updates resources, links, recommendations and more.

Formal debriefing

Access to formal debriefing through our online store with one of our trained educators.



How to join

Joining the community is easy.

To sign up, go to www.australiandoulacollege.com.au/adc-community

You'll complete an online membership form which has all of the details we need to set you up with an account and make an online payment.

You'll receive an invoice in your inbox.

You'll receive an email outlining all the benefits of your membership, how to join the facebook group and access the online resource centre.

Community Member

Investment: An annual fee of \$110 which can be renewed each year prior to expiry.

Student Member

Investment: A discounted membership fee of \$50 can be purchased once, following you can sign up to be a community member.

Member Badges

In both the Facebook Group and Members area you will find access to download your community or student member badges.

Use these to let people know that you are a member with the college on your website, socials and more.



Resource and Support Centre

A 'members only' portal where you will find resources and links to support you in your work as a doula. The library of resources is always growing and all the important links for you to be able to access the on call phone, book debriefs with educators, submit questions and more!

Monthly Newsletters

Each month we'll send out updates from the team, relevant news and articles; upcoming events and professional development opportunities. We celebrate our graduates in each month's newsletter and members and students have the opportunity to be featured in our newsletter.

Doula Directory

All community members will be featured on our Doula Directory. Every qualified doula on our directory will have opportunities to be featured throughout the year on our social media platforms as well as through our newsletters.

People come to our directory knowing that every doula has been comprehensively trained, holds a Working with Children Check and First Aid Certificate and is following a code of conduct and ethics.

When you join up we will ask you to complete a form to provide us with the following information:

first and surname
type of doula and services you provide
extra skills and certifications
other languages
an about you or biography
your location
social handles
website
phone number
email address
photo of you
First Aid/CPR Qualificaton*
WWCC Qualification



24/7 Support

Working in the birth, postpartum and end of life spaces is the kind of work best done well supported. Being able to call on support and expertise easily when you are in need is something we are really proud to offer. The ADC On-Call Phone exists as a 24/7 connection and mentor type programme for all students and members. You will find it on the Welcome page of your course, under General Contact Details along with other College numbers.

You can ring the On-Call number if you need urgent information and support with regards to your experience during the antenatal period, labour/birth, the postnatal period or end of life vigils. It is there for you to call 24/7 when needed. A Senior Doula/Educator will answer or call you back as soon as possible but you must leave a message.

Facebook Group

We know how important it is to connect with others working in the same space both online and in person.

Enter the online community group. The group is hosted on Facebook via a closed group space.

When you become a community member:

- We will send you a link
- Click 'request to join'
- We will approve the request
- Familiarise yourself with the group guidelines
- We ask that you check the pinned post and find the introductions post, please share a photo and introduce yourself, a little about you and where you're from

What will you find in the group:

- opportunity to network and connect with other students and members online
- share information about your business, offerings and projects on the Weekly Wednesday Shares Post.
- members can organise online and in person catch ups
- 'members only deals and discount codes from the college for the online shop and upcoming masterclasses



Online Group Guidelines

Be kind and courteous

We're all in this together to create a welcoming environment. Let's treat everyone with respect. Healthy debates are natural, but kindness is required. This is a community space.

No hate speech or bullying

Make sure everyone feels safe. Bullying of any kind isn't allowed, and degrading comments about personal decisions and choices, race, religion, culture, sexual orientation, gender or identity will not be tolerated.

Respect everyone's privacy

Being part of this group requires mutual trust. Authentic, expressive discussions make groups great, but may also be sensitive and private. What is shared in the group must stay in the group. You can only join with a personal profile, not a page or an account shared with your partner. Never share photos or documents that would breach the privacy of other members or your clients. Client confidentiality is of the utmost importance and should be maintained by not using names or identifying details.

No medical or clinical advice

This is a space for sharing information, knowledge, stories and ideas within the scope of your Doula practice. We are not medical or clinical care providers. While some individuals in this group may hold medical or clinical certifications in addition to their doula certification, we ask that all individuals take personal responsibility for any information shared or received. We always recommend your clients speak to their medical professional in these instances.

Business and Promotions

We're all here to connect with one another and to lift each other up in our work as Doulas individually and collectively. It's fine to share new and interesting projects and offerings, but let's not get too spammy. Please save these for our Weekly Wednesday Shares Post!

Reporting violations of the community guidelines:

If you see a post/comment that violates our rules, report it to the admins – PLEASE DO NOT verbally attack the author of said post/comment.

Free Birth

While we respect every individual's decision around their birth choices, the Australian Doula College will remove any posts, discussions or recommendations regarding free birth with a Doula and the member will be removed from the group immediately.

Administration

If you have any questions or concerns or are experiencing issues in the group, please turn to one of the admins for help. That's what we're here for! You can also email josie@australiandoulacollege.com.au



Groundwork Program

The Groundwork Program is a family focused support service working with a variety of families with varied, different and often complex needs. The ADC's unique in home education and support program is tailored to provide a solid foundation for our clients in whatever situation they find themselves in. The purpose of the program is to ensure mothers, families and individuals receive the personalised services they require to achieve what is most important to them, given their circumstances.

Our services include but again are not limited to:

- Childbirth education and birth support
- Post birth in home care and education
- Guidance
- Positive role modelling
- Transportation to and from appointments
- Referrals and resources
- Vigil support and understanding
- Coordinating support teams and other services
- Increase independent living skills including budgeting, meal planning, meal preparation, healthy eating/nutrition guidance
- Written reports after each shift.

As a community member you can apply for the intake process to determine your suitability to work on the program.



Doula Heart Network

The Doula Heart Network (DHN) supports and serves underprivileged, marginalized and or disadvantaged women, families and individuals.

Since its inception in 2004, the DHN has provided goods, care, respect and support to over 500 women and children. The DHN was created after the College founder and director, Renee Adair had worked in a young women's refuge, part of the Australian Red Cross, for over three years.

The DHN believes that no-one should ever birth or die alone, and no-one should ever be judged or receive any less care because of their race, colour, religion, age or personal situation.

Not only do we provide support, information and education during one of many life transitions but we also offer a variety of other services, including but not limited to:

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- Transport
- Attending appointments
- Supplying practical goods like baby clothes, bedding, furniture and kitchen wares
- Extended family support during times of need
- Food parcels
- Community referrals
- Brokerage for items like getting a birth certificate issued and needed medications

The DHN encourages the words of love and non-judgement for anyone seeking and needing support at the first or last breath and any transition in between.

As a community member you can apply to become a volunteer for the program.



ADC Code of Conduct and Ethics

AUSTRALIAN DOULA COLLEGE DOULAS PRACTICE UNDER THE FOLLOWING CODE OF CONDUCT AND ETHICS:

At the ADC we believe we have a duty of care to our clients, our students and members. With this in mind, we ask that all of our doulas follow our Code of Conduct and Ethics. This ensures a professional service at all times and supports the welfare and care of our doulas and our clients.

1. Doulas are accountable for their own practice and behaviour in whatever environment they are working in.
2. Doulas offer non-biased information and support and do not give advice. Their support and knowledge allow the client to make their own informed decisions and then the doula supports those decisions without prejudice or judgement.
3. Doulas understand the limitations to their services and refer on to other appropriate health professionals and resources.
4. Doulas may never knowingly support or participate in a medically unassisted home birth.
5. Doulas may never knowingly participate in physician-assisted suicide, euthanasia practices or any form of intentional ending of life or burial outside of the law in their State or Territory.
6. Student doulas must not charge a fee or falsely advertise their services.
7. Doulas never perform clinical or medical tasks, diagnose medical conditions or give medical advice, even if trained as a health professional prior to becoming a doula.
8. Doulas will accurately represent their level of education and experience and must not mislead other doulas, clients or other professionals (i.e. websites, leaflets, emails, interviews, etc.) as to their level of education and experience.
9. Doulas will always practice with a client/doula agreement and are required to keep records for all jobs.
10. Doulas uphold confidentiality between all clients, students and educators of the ADC according to the Australian Privacy Act.
11. Doulas who work under the umbrella of the Australian Doula College uphold our integrity and respect all clients, their families and other health professionals.
12. Doulas must all be trained in CPR and hold a current certificate, Certificate IV in Doula Services Qualification holders are required to have current CPR and First Aid qualifications
13. Qualified doulas must have current public liability insurance.
14. Doulas must have a current working with children or police check.



Our Team

Our team is made up of a group of dynamic, diverse, positive and passionate women. Among us you will find trained, certified educators and doulas and all of us hold a variety of other qualifications. Collectively we have over 100 years of experience! We love what we do and it's our joy to work together to enhance your experience with the Australian Doula College and as a doula in whatever space you work in.



Contact us

Australian Doula College (ADC)

Student Co-ordinator

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studentadmin@australiandoulacollege.com.au

Mailing Address: Lv 57, 25 Martin Place,
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Tel: (02) 9238 2195

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