



## Birth Attendant Interview Questions

*Initial questions prior to meeting a Birth Attendant or Doula*

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Attendant's Name: \_\_\_\_\_

Address: \_\_\_\_\_

Phone: (hm) \_\_\_\_\_ (m) \_\_\_\_\_

Email Address: \_\_\_\_\_

Are you available around my due date (from 38-42wks)? Are there any birthdays, holidays or events which will prevent you from attending the birth?

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How long have you been a Birth Attendant for and how many births have you attended? What sort of births have you supported, e.g. caesarean, natural birth, waterbirth etc.

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Where and when did you do your training? How many hours and births did it involve?

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Do you attend the birth only or are there pre-natal and post-natal visits? Do you offer packages?

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What do you charge and when is payment required? Do you have a non-refundable booking fee or 'retainer'? Under which circumstances do you offer a refund?

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Do you have any back-up Birth Attendants and if so will I get to meet them?

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What happens if you don't make it for the birth, for example in a fast labour or if we cannot contact you? What happens if we haven't called you in time for the birth? What happens if we decide prior to the birth that we no longer require a Birth Attendant?

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## Birth Attendant Interview Questions

*Questions to ask upon meeting a Birth Attendant or Doula*

Why did you become a Birth Attendant? What do you love most about being a Birth Attendant?

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What skills, qualities and abilities do you feel you have to offer us?

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What are your philosophies and beliefs about childbirth?

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How do Midwives and Obstetricians usually react to your presence? Have you ever experienced any tension with family members or medical professionals? If so how did you handle this?

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Do you have children? Do you have childcare arrangements if I go into labour at anytime of day or night?

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What were your own birth experience(s)?

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What are your beliefs about pain relief?

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## Birth Attendant Interview Questions

*Questions to ask upon meeting a Birth Attendant or Doula (cont.)*

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What do you see as my partner's role during labour?

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Will you support my partner too? If so, how?

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What are your thoughts about my Midwife or Obstetrician? Have you worked with them before?

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Will you attend a prenatal appointment with us to meet our Midwife or Obstetrician?

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Can you help us write our Birth Preferences (aka birth plan)?

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How many births per month do you attend? Do you have any other births due around the same time as us? If so, when are they due?

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How far away are you from the place of birth?

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What will happen when I am in early labour? When should I inform you that things are happening? Will you come to my home in labour (if not homebirth) or will you meet me in hospital?

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**Birth Attendant Interview Questions**

*Questions to ask upon meeting a Birth Attendant or Doula (cont.)*

Are we able to contact you anytime with questions by phone or email? Will you be uncontactable at any times? How do I contact you and when can I contact you when I am in labour, day and night?

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Have you worked in our chosen hospital or birth centre before? What are your thoughts about it?

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How long do you stay for after the birth?

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What are your experiences with breastfeeding and what are your philosophies?

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Are there any books or workshops that you recommend to pregnant couples and / or new parents?

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Do you have any references? Can I call one or two of them?

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Any other notes:

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