OAR 836-053-????

(1) A health benefit plan that reimburses the cost of pregnancy and childbirth expenses shall provide coverage for services provided by Doulas.

   a. “Doula” has the meaning defined in ORS 414.025, as amended by 2025 Oregon Laws Chapter 539.

   b. The coverage required by this rule must include a minimum of 24 hours of doula services in addition to labor and delivery services, with an option to approve additional hours based on need.

   c. A health benefit plan may not require prior authorization, referral, or supervision by another health care provider as a condition of receiving this coverage, except that prior authorization or referral may be required for approval of services beyond the 24 hours described in section (1)(b) of this rule.

      i. This coverage may be subject to the other requirements that apply to other benefits under the policy, including co-pays, coinsurance, and deductible requirements.

   d. A health benefit plan contract that was issued, renewed, or extended between January 1, 2026 and December 31, 2026 must reimburse the cost of doula services up to $3,760.

(2) A health benefit plan that reimburses the cost of pregnancy and childbirth expenses shall communicate with all members on how they can access doula services.