

Fee Contract

As midwives, we seek to offer you concrete information, skills and support so as to enable you to achieve the birth experience you have created for yourself.

Retaining our services will require a \$400 non-refundable for any reason deposit. No services will begin until this deposit is paid. You can follow your payments in your online medical records. We enter each payment there.

Although we make every effort to be present at your birth, circumstances out of our control can sometimes make that impossible. Sometimes women give birth in a very short period of time, and some don't call us in a timely manner.

Payment of this fee does not guarantee a home birth. It does secure the type of services that help you to ensure a safe birth, which may mean you must go to the hospital. In the event of a hospital transfer during a birth, no refund of fees will be given. If you still have a balance, payment is still expected in full. In the event of transfer of care during your pregnancy, your fees will be refunded minus the \$400 non-refundable deposit, and minus \$80 per prenatal/postpartum visit that was attended by any member of the NSM staff.

We offer flexible payment options. We offer payment by cash, check or charge. Charge card transactions will incur a 3% fee per transaction.

IMPORTANT NOTE ABOUT PAYMENT PLANS:

We understand how hard it can be to come up with the amount of money that it costs to have a midwife, so we have offered a payment plan for those who are unable to pay up front in full. Payments can be made in any increment, that you wish, but must be at least \$100 per visit, if you carry a balance. If you do not make a payment towards your balance during your scheduled prenatal appointment, we will add \$25 to your account, per occurrence. This may seem harsh, but many times we go through an entire day without one client bringing a payment, and we can not stay in business that way. Your birth must be paid off by the 36th week of pregnancy. If a good faith effort at this balance has not been made by week 25 of pregnancy, we will not consider ourselves on call for your birth, meaning, we will not cancel possible vacations or family obligations in order to attend your birth.

APPOINTMENT CANCELLATION POLICY:

We have a very busy practice and schedule all of our patients for 30-60 minute appointment slots. 60 minutes is a long time that we could have used for other patients, or even lunch had we known you weren't going to be there. If you do not give us 24 hour notice that you will not be able to attend your appointment, we **will** add \$80 per occurrence onto your balance.

We agree to pay the birth fee and all other fees as required above.

Sign/date