

## Freestanding Birthing Center Initial Licensure Guidance

The information below outlines the steps for obtaining a license as a freestanding birthing center (BC).

### 1. Facilities Planning and Safety Review

Prior to initial licensure, applicants must have the Oregon Health Authority, Facilities Planning and Safety (FPS) program perform plan reviews to ensure compliance with built environment requirements for BCs. Visit [www.healthoregon.org/fps](http://www.healthoregon.org/fps) for instructions on how to submit a project. In addition to plan reviews, FPS conducts an on-site inspection for each project, which is the final step to ensure the facility meets built environment requirements that align with patient health and safety.

- a. Construction document (CD) plan review and approval
  - Construction may start after CD approval. Construction prior to CD approval may lead to costly remodels.
- b. On-site inspection
- c. Final project approval

### 2. Facility Licensing Documentation and Survey

A [BC license application](#) may be submitted towards the end of the FPS review, after a project's site inspection has been scheduled. An initial licensing survey **must** be completed prior to the start of operations. A BC may not provide patient care services without a state license. Licensed facilities must comply with the requirements in [OAR chapter 333, division 77](#).

- a. Licensure application and non-refundable fee
- b. On-site licensure survey
- c. Issuance of license

If you have questions regarding this process, please contact the Health Facility Licensing and Certification program at 971-673-0540 or [mailbox.hclc@oha.oregon.gov](mailto:mailbox.hclc@oha.oregon.gov).

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