



INELDA Certification Program Guidance END-OF-LIFE DOULA EXPERIENCE

INELDA's Certification Program is a comprehensive 1-year cohort-based professional development program designed to support you through mentorship, peer review, and continuing education. In order to begin the certification program, you will need to have had some end-of-life doula experience, whether through client involvement, volunteer service, community outreach, advocacy, or other experience in the field. Most importantly, participants must have end-of-life doula practice opportunities in place or be actively cultivating new opportunities to practice throughout the duration of the year-long program.

Upon registration, you will be asked to complete a form outlining your areas of experience and provide supporting documentation. 30 hours of experience is required before beginning the program, each registrant will be considered individually.

We all enter this field through different pathways, so please note that the examples below are not the only forms of accepted experience. If you have questions about your specific experience, please email certification@inelda.org.

Direct Service:

Minimum of 20 hours

In order to help us understand your background and experience supporting individuals and families across the spectrum of end-of-life, you will be asked to elaborate on and show proof of paid or unpaid hours providing direct service as an end-of-life doula. Examples may include, but are not limited to:

- Hospice or palliative care programs
- Long-term care facility
- Private end-of-life doula practice
- Doula collective
- Community outreach setting
- After-death support

Received Education:

*Minimum of 10 hours**

Foundational end-of-life doula training is a prerequisite before certification. In addition to your initial foundational training, you will be asked to provide documentation for other training or education you have received. Examples may include, but are not limited to:

- Conferences/Symposiums
- Webinars/Workshops
- Seminars
- Academic courses
- CEU/CE self-study courses
- Peer mentoring groups
- Community of practice groups
- Trainings

**Does not include initial end-of-life doula training. If you have trained with INELDA, we will already have a record of your certificate of completion. If you have trained with another organization, you will be asked to provide your certificate, along with confirmation that you have completed our Bridge Training.*

Education Provided:

No minimum hours

You may have some experience providing education in your community. If applicable, you will have an opportunity to elaborate on and provide proof of your experience in this area. Examples may include, but are not limited to:

- Teaching academic courses
 - Leading workshops, webinars, or information sessions
 - Offering community education through Death Cafés or other public events
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Contributions to the Field:

No minimum hours

You may have experience contributing to the field of deathcare. If applicable, you will have an opportunity to elaborate on and provide proof of your experience in this area. Examples may include, but are not limited to:

- Publishing a journal article, book chapter, and/or book for professional or public audiences (using a publisher or self-published)
- Completing a thesis or dissertation
- Engaging in advocacy or policy work