FAQs

What is the Black Maternal Health Conference and Training Institute?
The Black Maternal Health Conference and Training Institute™ (BMHC), founded and led by the Black Mamas Matter Alliance, is the premiere assembly for Black women, clinicians, professionals, advocates, and other stakeholders working to improve maternal health using the birth justice, reproductive justice, and human rights frameworks. It will offer a national space for learning, rich discussions, and mobilization to transform Black Maternal Health, Rights, and Justice. Click here for additional information.

What is the Black Mamas Matter Alliance?
Black Mamas Matter Alliance (BMMA) is a national network of Black women-led organizations and multi-disciplinary professionals who work to ensure that all Black Mamas have the rights, respect, and resources to thrive before, during, and after pregnancy. BMMA honors the work and historical contributions of Black women’s leadership within their communities and values the need to amplify this work on a national scale. For this reason, BMMA does not have chapters. The alliance is composed of existing organizations and individuals (Midwives, OB/GYNs, Nurses, Doulas, Researchers, Public Health Professionals, Perinatal Support Workers, Attorneys, Lactation Consultants, and Artists) whose work is deeply rooted in reproductive justice, birth justice, and the human rights framework. Visit our website for more information.

Where are the conference events and activities taking place?
The Conference is a hybrid model this year, meaning programming will be both in-person and virtual. For those who wish to join us in-person we will be at the Renaissance Hotel in Downtown Washington, D.C. There will be limited space (400) for in-person attendees that will be on a first come, first served basis. For those who wish to join remotely, you have the option to attend online. We are wherever you are!

What are the official dates of the conference?
The conference will take place September 17-18, 2022.

Who do I contact for any questions?
For any questions about the conference registration, payments, transfers, or continuing education credits, contact registration@blackmamasmatter.org. For questions about sponsorships and exhibitors,
awards gala, accessibility and childcare, day-of-conference access issues, or COVID-related issues, contact conference@blackmamasmatter.org. Please allow up to two business days for a response.

**What can attendees expect?**
Attendees can expect an exciting, innovative and much-needed discussion around Black Maternal Health. We are bringing together researchers, health professionals, advocates, mamas, and students with a passion for health equity and reproductive justice for Black mamas. Please see our schedule and pages for more information as it becomes available.

**Accessibility**

**What accessibility options will be provided for BMHC22 attendees?**
In order to make our conference as accessible and inclusive as possible for our attendees, the following will be provided:

*Virtual:* Live American Sign Language (ASL) interpretation for main session and keynote session; Closed captioning for pre-recorded sessions; Downloadable presentation slides for pre-recorded breakout sessions

*In-Person:* Live American Sign Language (ASL) interpretation for main session and keynote session; On-site child care; private breast/chest feeding and pumping spaces; ADA compliant conference facility

You will have the opportunity to inform us of any additional accessibility options you need on your registration form. If additional support is needed, email conference@blackmamamatters.org.

**Registration**

**Will I be able to register for BMHC22 on site?**
No, BMHC22 in-person registration closes on August 31, 2022.

**Why is the early bird price not reflected in my total?**
The system captured your payment after the early bird deadline of June 30, 2022 at 11:59 pm ET.

**Do you accept donations for the purpose of providing funds to those who cannot afford to pay registration?**
Send email to conference@blackmamasmatter.org to learn more about donation opportunities.

**I did not receive a receipt to my email address, what do I do?**
After your registration is completed, you can view any payments made on your invoice which you can access within your conference account. If you need additional support, please send an email to registration@blackmamasmatter.org; with the subject line: RECEIPT REQUEST, include your full name, email address, ID number, and amount paid in body.
A group of attendees were registered, and individual receipts are needed. How do I request a receipt?
Once you create a group registration you can view the invoice by group or individual and any payments will be reflected on that invoice. If you need additional support, please email registration@blackmamasmatter.org; with the subject line: RECEIPT REQUEST, include your full name, email address, ID number, and amount paid in body.

Does BMMA offer scholarships for students to attend for free? Is there a student discount offered?
BMMA will offer 10 virtual attendee scholarships. Please stay connected to BMMA via social media and sign up for our newsletter to be alerted when this process opens. Student rates are available during registration for both virtual and in-person options. To receive the student rate, you will be asked to upload proof of enrollment during the registration process. Acceptable documentation includes: current transcript showing full-time enrollment, letter of enrollment on official school letterhead, photo of a valid/current student ID. All documentation will be reviewed by BMMA; inauthentic documentation may result in your registration being canceled and refunded.

Are continuing education credits offered for BMHC22?
Yes. Please reach out to conference@blackmamasmatter.org for more information.

Will I receive a certificate of attendance?
Yes, certificate of attendance documents will be available to conference registrants through the conference platform once the conference begins.

Can I pay via check?
Yes, check payment will be accepted for registration. Please make the check out to Black Mamas Matter Alliance and mail to: Black Mamas Matter Alliance, PO BOX 571894, Atlanta, GA 30357. When you register, please select “check payment” at checkout. Your registration is not confirmed until the check is received and cleared. Check payments must be received within 10 days of your registration submission or your registration will be canceled. If you intend on paying by check for your individual or group registrations, you must submit your registration by August 15th, 2022. Any registrations submitted after August 15th, must be paid by credit card online.

How do I obtain a W-9?
If your organization requires a W-9 for check payment, please email conference@blackmamasmatter.org

What is the cancellation and refund policy?
ALL SALES ARE FINAL for BMHC22 registrations. No refunds will be issued for cancellation; however all in-person and virtual registrants will retain access to the virtual conference platform (which includes access to session recordings) for six months following the conference.

Can I transfer my registration to another individual?
Yes, to request a transfer of your registration please email registration@blackmamasmatter.org. Include the subject line: TRANSFER REQUEST. In the body of the email please include your name, registration ID number, and the name and email address of the individual who will be taking your place. BMMA will not issue refunds for any transfer of registration (NOTE: you will forfeit any price difference due to the
changing from in-person to virtual attendance). In addition, BMMA will not be party to or facilitate any transfer of funds or reimbursement for transfer of conference registration. BMMA will solely be responsible for transferring the registration and providing confirmation of transfer. 

All transfers must be requested by August 15, 2022.

**Agenda**

Is there a full agenda available?

A detailed agenda will be provided in the future. Click here to download a tentative agenda.

**Lodging**

Is there a preferred hotel for in-person attendees?

Yes, conference attendees can now reserve a room at the Renaissance Hotel in Washington D.C. at a nightly rate of $189.00, plus applicable taxes. The last day to reserve a room as part of the Black Maternal Health Conference block is Thursday, August 25, 2022. Attendees must use the link provided within the registration page to take advantage of this rate. For those who prefer to call to reserve a room, the number is 1-800-228-9290, please reference Black Maternal Health Conference to reserve the discounted rate.

Room block availability for in-person attendees will be on a first come, first served basis.

**Health and Safety**

What COVID-19 protocols are in place?

The health and safety of all attendees is BMMA’s priority. As such, BMMA will follow the guidelines of the Renaissance Hotel and the mandates of Washington, D.C. In addition, BMMA will base any additional on-site protocols on the latest CDC and local public health guidelines to ensure a safe environment.

All in-person participants must either:

- Provide proof of vaccination. Attendees must be fully vaccinated as defined by the CDC: A person is considered fully vaccinated two weeks after their second dose in a two-dose series, such as the Pfizer-BioNTech and Moderna vaccines, or two weeks after the single-dose J&J/Janssen vaccine.

OR:

- Provide proof of a negative PCR test within 24 hours of the first day of the Conference. Testing will be the responsibility of the individual traveler.

Attendees will be notified of instructions for informing us of their vaccination status or proof of a negative PCR test prior to the start of the Conference. You should be prepared to present this documentation in person.
We encourage PCR testing at the end of Conference Day One. If the attendee is unable to get PCR testing results in time for the second day of the Conference we strongly encourage a rapid (at-home) test to be taken the morning of Conference Day Two (before arriving at the Conference).

- If your PCR or rapid Covid-19 test is positive, please do not attend any Conference activities.
  - If you feel ill or are presenting any symptoms, please do not attend any Conference activities.

Masks will be required throughout the duration of the Conference unless actively eating or drinking.

**Parking Rate**

BMMA has secured a valet discount of $35/a day for BMHC22 attendees. To obtain this discount, attendees will need to show proof of their program attendance upon departure by displaying their conference badge.

**Press Access**

Who should members of the media contact to request press credentials to attend/cover the conference?

All journalists and media-makers interested in attending virtually or in-person must contact comms@blackmamasmatter.org and a member of our team will be in touch on whether your coverage request has been approved.