

5 Midwife

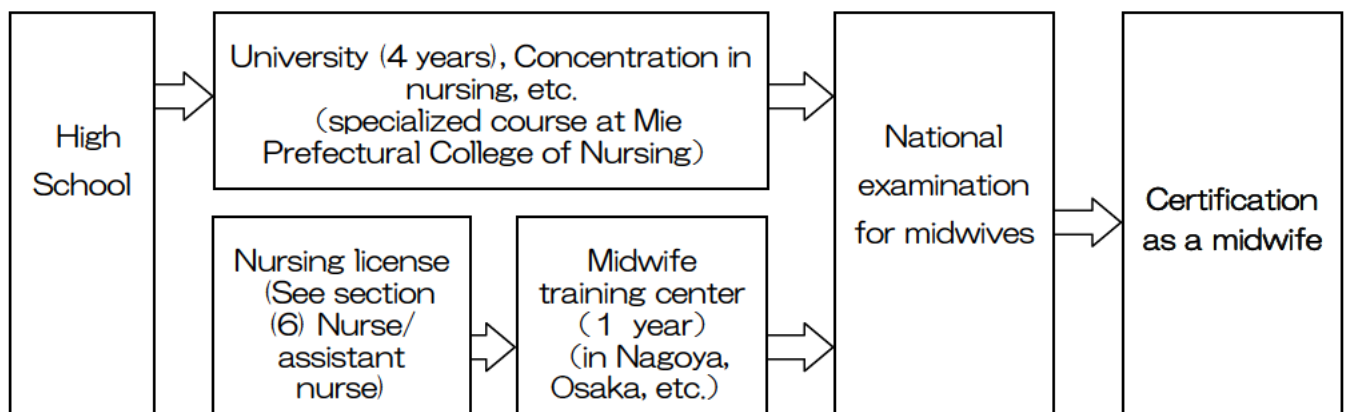


A midwife is someone who helps a mother give birth to a child safely, and is a job that only women perform in Japan. Midwives are also certified nurses, and therefore perform duties specific to nurses, as well. Midwives also support maternal and baby health at public health centers, making this job one that broadly affects women's lives.

Apart from helping with the delivery of newborns, midwives provide support for struggling mothers, women with fertility issues, and teen mothers, and also provide consultation regarding abortion and puberty.

For mothers who cannot speak Japanese, availability of midwives who speak their native language can be very comforting, making this a job an important one for non-Japanese women to fill in the future.

Becoming a midwife:



Prepare now:

Gaining admission to universities and training schools for nursing requires a high level of Japanese language ability and academic achievement. It is important that you work to improve your Japanese and native language skills early.

Job prospects:

Midwives work in the obstetrics and gynecology departments at hospitals, maternity centers, and local public health centers, among others. There is a high demand for midwives right now, which means that there are many employment opportunities for midwives, as well as opportunities for midwives to open their own independent maternity centers. Midwives make on average about 5 million yen per year.

Tuition:

Tuition at a public university can be upwards of 600,000 yen per year. Public midwife training centers also charge about 600,000 yen in tuition per year.