

## Who We Are

- ★ USLCA is the national affiliate for the International Lactation Consultants Association (ILCA) which was formed in 1985.
- ★ USLCA's primary purpose is to advocate for the International Board Certified Lactation Consultant (IBCLC) in the United States.
- ★ USLCA has a Board of Directors, 501(c)(6) status, and holds annual general meetings for their membership.
- ★ USLCA advocates for IBCLC State Licensure, Third-Party Reimbursement for IBCLCs, and Legislative issues that pertain to the IBCLC profession.
- ★ USLCA fosters the communication, networking and mutual support amongst USLCA members through State Chapters, monthly eNews online newsletter, webinars, and conferences.
- ★ USLCA member benefits include discounted professional liability insurance for IBCLCs.
- ★ USLCA provides opportunities for involvement at the national level through committee participation.

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**USLCA**  
United States Lactation  
Consultant Association

## Who's Who in Lactation in the USA?

***United we can make  
a difference!***

***USLCA – One Voice***

# Who's Who in Lactation in the USA?

	<b>International Board Certified Lactation Consultant (IBCLC, RLC)</b>	<b>Certified Lactation Counselor (CLC)</b>	<b>Certified Lactation Educator (CLE or LE)</b>	<b>WIC Peer Counselor</b>
<b>Program Prerequisites</b>	Completion of one of the three pathways to exam eligibility. Pathway 1 is based upon on-the-job experience; Pathway 2 requires completion of an academic program; and Pathway 3 is a mentorship program.	None.	None.	Successfully breastfed their own child and WIC participation.
<b>Educational Components</b>	All candidates for the exam must have lactation specific clinical experience and education. The amount of education and experience required varies by pathway. Requires 1000 hours of practice or directly supervised practice, plus 45 to 90 hours of lactation education.	Five day workshop based on WHO/UNICEF Breastfeeding Counseling Training.	Five day workshop.	14 hours minimum breast-feeding curriculum which varies from state-to-state.
<b>Completion Requirements</b>	Successful completion of the designated pathway requirements within the 5 years immediately prior to exam application.	Program attendance at a CLC course by Healthy Children's Center for Breastfeeding, pass all required in-class competency verification and homework assignments and passing of final exam. Additional clinical work and written paper for 3 college credits (college credit optional).	Program attendance. Additional clinical/written assignments may vary.	Attendance in WIC sponsored class.
<b>Certification Offered</b>	Certified as "IBCLC" upon passing the International Board of Lactation Consultant Examiners (IBLCE) certification exam for lactation consultants. IBLCE's certification exam is accredited by the National Commission for Certifying Agencies (NCCA).	The Certified Lactation Counselor course is an ANCC-accredited Nursing Skills Competency Program. Certified as "CLC" upon passing the Academy of Lactation Policy and Practice (ALPP) certification exam and competency verification. Valid 3 years.	"Lactation Educator Certificate" from institute offering program.	"Peer Counselor Certificate"
<b>Registration</b>	International Board Certified Lactation Consultant (IBCLC) and Registered Lactation Consultant (RLC) are certification marks registered with the US Patent and Trademark Office. IBCLC is the primary certification mark. Use of the RLC designation is limited to individuals who hold the IBCLC credential.	None.	None.	None.
<b>Re-certification Requirements</b>	IBCLCs must re-certify every 5 years. Five years after last passing the exam, re-certification by continuing education is allowed. Re-certification by exam is required every 10 years.	18 hours of approved continuing education hours every 3 years.	None.	Continuing education hours required monthly.