

Are the CERPs for this session L, E or R CERPs?

When allocating CERPs to programs, either as a Group Program Provider or when making an *Individual Application for CERPs*, you pay particular attention to the importance of careful determination of whether the CERPs allocated for a session should be L, E or R CERPs, or a combination (eg 0.5 L and 0.5 R). Please keep this document to refer to when allocating CERPs. If in doubt for any planned presentation, please email an outline to IBLCE.

L CERPs

L (lactation) CERPs can be earned from educational sessions, programs or materials where the primary focus or learning objective is lactation or breastfeeding specific, or addresses the role of the IBCLC. The content should be: at a level appropriate for an IBCLC, and

- o based on current research and scientific principles, and
- o within the scope of practice of an IBCLC if addressing clinical practice
- o presented by a person with professional qualifications or experience relevant to the content.

Examples of topics that may be appropriate for L CERPs include:

Breast anatomy in relation to lactation	The Ten Steps to Successful Breastfeeding
Clinical skills for IBCLCs	Breastfeeding management
Clinical documentation for IBCLCs	Breastfeeding research
Influence of culture on breastfeeding	Nutrition during lactation

E CERPs

E (ethics) CERPs can be earned from educational sessions, programs or materials that address professional ethics or ethical issues relevant to IBCLCs.

Examples of appropriate E topics include:

Practice ethics for lactation consultants	Human rights and infant feeding choice
Health workers and the WHO International Code	Copyright and intellectual property
Conflict of interest	Ethical issues in health care
The dilemma of formula company sponsorship	Knowing your limits; when to refer
Dealing with a colleague whose practice is not based on scientific principles and up-to-date information	

R CERPs

R (related) CERPs can be earned from educational sessions, programs or materials where the primary focus or learning objective is directly related to the knowledge, skills or professional development of an IBCLC, but is not lactation or breastfeeding specific. The content should be:

- o at a level appropriate for an IBCLC,
- o based on current research and scientific principles, and
- o covered by the *IBLCE Exam Blueprint* (or a resuscitation program)

When trying to determine if a session is R CERPs or no CERPs, imagine an IBCLC who is not also a health professional (e.g. she is not a midwife, MCH Nurse or doctor). Would this session be useful to support her in her work as an IBCLC? Is it related to the role of the IBCLC?

Examples of topics that may be appropriate for R CERPs include:

General anatomy	Postpartum depression
Infant growth and development	Adult education principles
Research methods and statistics	Family dynamics
Cultural differences in health practices	Nutrition (if not lactation-specific)
Cardio-pulmonary resuscitation (CPR)	
Complementary therapy (overview session – not a “how to” session which is outside the IBCLC scope of practice)	
Counselling or communications skills (except when facilitated by ABA or LLL & specific to lactation education the CERPs are L)	

No CERPs

Clinical work as an IBCLC, and antenatal/postnatal classes for mothers are *not* professional education, and are *not* eligible for CERPs. Activities such as private study, reading journals, watching videos (without a group discussion) are not eligible for CERPs.

Examples of topics that are not appropriate for any CERPs include:

A topic that is *not* covered by the *IBLCE Exam Blueprint* is unlikely to be eligible for CERPs. Examples include:

Computer skills	Business management
Complementary therapy (instructional program)	Motivational sessions
Specialised midwifery skills, e.g. foetal monitoring	

IBCLCs can not claim CERPs for programs organised by individuals or companies that manufacture or distribute products within the scope of the WHO International Code of Marketing of Breast-milk Substitutes; nor for programs where these companies or company personnel had input into the choice of speakers or the content of the presentations.