



IBLCE

International Board of
Lactation Consultant Examiners

IBLCE Announces Results of 2009 Certification Exam for Lactation Consultants

Falls Church, Virginia USA - October 16, 2009 - A record number of candidates sought the International Board Certified Lactation Consultant (IBCLC) credential in 2009. The number of candidates was 21% higher than the record set in 2008. Across 5 continents, in 40 countries and in 14 languages, 4017 candidates took the exam on July 27, 2009. IBLCE is pleased to announce that 2767 newly certified lactation consultants joined the growing number of IBCLCs worldwide.



On their tenth anniversary of passing the exam, IBCLCs are required to recertify by examination. The performance of candidates taking the 2009 exam for recertification was excellent, with recertifying IBCLCs showing a higher mean score and pass rate than candidates sitting the exam for initial certification. A total of 829 IBCLCs sat the exam for recertification and 98.5% of them achieved a passing score.

Overall, 89.25% of candidates for the 2009 IBLCE exam candidates achieved a passing score. With the addition of newly certified IBCLCs and the retention of IBCLCs through recertification, the number of IBCLCs serving families worldwide exceeds 22,000.

IBLCE is the global authority that determines the competence of practitioners in lactation and breastfeeding care. As the premier and only international certification in lactation consulting, the IBCLC credential is celebrating its 25th anniversary in 2010. Over its 25 year history, IBLCE has administered its certification exam for lactation consulting to more than 33,000 individuals and in 19 languages.

The composition of the 2009 exam cohort illustrates a consistent trend over the past 10 years. For the tenth year in a row, the percentage of candidates from outside the United States, Canada and Australia exceeded 30%. This year's record-setting number of exam candidates and their geographic distribution underscore the fact that the IBCLC credential is the global standard of competence assessment in lactation consulting.

The success of the 2009 exam advances IBLCE's vision of improving the health and well-being of mothers and children worldwide by increasing the number of competent lactation consultants. The IBLCE certification program protects the public interest by ensuring that lactation consultants who hold the IBCLC credential demonstrate and maintain their competence to provide skilled and evidence-based lactation care.

About IBLCE

The International Board of Lactation Consultant Examiners was founded in 1985 and its certification program for lactation consultants has been continuously accredited by the National Commission for Certifying Agencies since the initial application for accreditation in 1988. The IBLCE central office is located in Falls Church, Virginia, USA and there are three regional offices located in Australia, Austria and the United States.

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