

## Lactation Consultant Program *Pathway 3*: Mentorship

Students using this pathway must complete an approved lactation education plan under the supervision of one or more IBCLCs, all of whom have re-certified at least once. The plan must be approved by IBLCE before the candidate begins the clinical practice component. IBLCE has made revisions to this pathway for first-time certificate candidates effective 2012. Please see the IBLCE website for more information.

### Time frame for Completion

Required coursework must be completed within the five years immediately before IBLCE exam application.

### Coursework

In addition to required clinical experience in helping breastfeeding families, beginning in 2012, all first-time candidates will be required to:

- Complete 90 contact hours of human lactation and breastfeeding education. Birthingway's lactation education course sequence meets this requirement. See *LACTATION EDUCATION COURSE SEQUENCE*.
- Meet ONE of the following requirements:
  - be a registered/licensed/recognized health professional in their country OR
  - complete *Higher Education* in 14 identified subject areas.

Please see the *Pathway 1* section to review the Birthingway courses that meet those requirements.

### Clinical Experience

To qualify to take the certification exam, IBLCE requires 500 hours minimum of lactation-specific clinical hours for *Pathway 3* applicants. These 500+ hours must be directly supervised by the re-certified IBCLCs, and accumulated within the five years immediately before exam application. Each *Pathway 3* plan must be developed individually and approved before the student may count any hours toward exam eligibility.

### Additional Requirements

IBLCE requires those sitting for the examination to also provide references from two individuals who can testify to your clinical practice hours. This is not a Birthingway requirement.

### Lactation Consultant Pathway 3 Costs

Course work	\$432.00 per quarter credit hour
Registration Fee	\$55.00 per term
Technology Fee	\$35.00 per term

See Lactation Program Coordinator for current practicum fee. Additional fees may apply. See registration form for current costs and additional fees.

Excerpt from *2014-15 Student Handbook and Catalog*, page 113