

Lactation Support Provider (LSP) Descriptors

Category	Descriptions	Training	Credentials & Programs
Lactation Consultants	Referral to these health professionals is appropriate for the full range of breastfeeding care, particularly involving high acuity breastfeeding situations.	<p>90-95 didactic hours, and additional training requirements and exam for each title.</p> <p>Often work clinically as part of the healthcare team in both inpatient and outpatient settings; may also work in private practice.</p>	<p>International Board Certified Lactation Consultant® (IBCLC®) Program accreditation by Nat'l Commission for Certifying Agencies (NCCA)</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Health professionals and individuals with 14 college level health science courses (6 can be continuing education) 95 lactation-specific didactic hours 300 to 1000+ hours of clinical practice, depending on pathway
			<p>Advanced Lactation Consultants (ALC®)</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Certification as a CLC® or IBCLC® Plus 2 college credits in <i>Maternal and Infant Assessment</i> and 3 college credits in <i>Advanced Issues in Lactation Practice</i>
			<p>Advanced Nurse Lactation Consultants (ANLC®)</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Current RN license and certification as a CLC® or IBCLC® Plus 3 college credits in <i>Advanced Issues in Lactation Practice</i>
Breastfeeding Counselors	Individuals who hold these certifications or similar have the skills to provide breastfeeding counseling, address normal breastfeeding in healthy term infants, and to conduct maternal and infant assessments of anatomy, latch, and positioning, while providing support.	<p>45-54.5 hours of classroom training and exam.</p> <p>Often provide support to families in the hospital and community settings. Counselors may have additional competencies to assist families with breastfeeding difficulties.</p>	<p>Certified Breastfeeding Specialists (CBS®)</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> 54.5 didactic hours earning 3 college credits
			<p>Certified Lactation Counselors (CLC®) Program accreditation by American Nat'l Standards Institute (ANSI)</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> 52 didactic hours; ANSI accredited exam earning 3 college credits
			<p>Certified Lactation Educators (CLE®)</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> 45 didactic hours and exam
Breastfeeding Peer Counselors	Breastfeeding peer support organizations equip these LSPs to meet the needs of the families they serve, focusing primarily on individual and community support.	<p>Personal breastfeeding experience and approximately 20 hours of training through various community models, except for the La Leche League Leader program, which has 90 hours of training.</p>	<p>Peer support organizations equip these LSPs to meet the needs of the families they serve, focusing primarily on individual and community support. Examples of national breastfeeding peer counselor organizations in the U.S. include:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Breastfeeding USA HealthConnect One La Leche League (LLL) Reaching Our Sisters Everywhere (ROSE) Women, Infants, and Children (WIC)
Lactation Educators	A Breastfeeding Educator is qualified to support and educate the public on breastfeeding and related issues but does not perform clinical care.	Generally, 20 hours of training.	Childbirth and Postpartum Professional Association (CAPPA)

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