

IBCLCs Recertify Every Five Years

Accessing Your IBCLC Personal Professional Development Plan (PPDP)

For current information visit the **IBCLC Commission** - <https://ibclc-commission.org>

1. **Log-in to your IBCLC personal account on the IBCLC Commission site**
(Top of the 'Home' Page) This brings up a sidebar index (Left Side) Click 'Home'
2. **Click 'Personal Development Plan (Blue bar)**
3. **Click 'Continuing Education (CE) Self -Assessment' (Blue print in the second paragraph)**
4. **This brings up another log-in 'IBCLC continuing Education' log-in**
5. **Click green 'Past Assessments' (Top left)**
6. **Your PDP is there with all your personal details**

Your assessment is available to view 12-18 months after you last certified

Detailed Content Outline (DCO) & Continuing Education Recognition Points (CERPs)

This chart links the seven areas of the DCO to the possible CERP allocation according to their learning content.

DCO Number & Topic			CERPs Allocation
I	Development & Nutrition	A – Infant	R (Related) or L (Lactation) R if not specifically on lactation or breastfeeding
		B - Maternal	
II	Physiology & Endocrinology	A – Physiology of lactation	L
		B - Endocrinology	
III	Pathology	A - Infant	L
		B - Maternal	
IV	Pharmacology & Toxicology		L
V	Psychology, Sociology & Anthropology		R or L R if not specifically on lactation or breastfeeding
VI	Techniques		R or L R if not specifically on lactation or breastfeeding
VII	Clinical Skills	A – Equipment and technology	L
		B – Education and communication	L
		C – Ethical and legal issues	E (Ethics)
		D - Research	R
		E – Public health and Advocacy	R or L R if not specifically on lactation or breastfeeding

IBCLCs Recertification Requirements

1. Be organised, the 5 years pass quickly
2. Start as soon as you have certified and document everything
3. ALL the IBCLC recertification requirements MUST be within the previous 5yrs, when applying for recertification
4. To maintain an IBCLC certification, recertification MUST be applied for before September 30th the year that your IBCLC certification expires

ALWAYS CHECK THE CURRENT RECERTIFICATION REQUIREMENTS

<https://ibclc-commission.org/how-to-become-an-ibclc/step-1-prepare-for-ibclc-recertification/>

- Undertaken a minimum of 250 lactation clinical hours
- hold a current Basic Life Support certificate
- undertake 2hrs 'WHO Code' education (CERPs accredited)

Decide on you route to recertification

Exam

CERPs

ALWAYS assume you will be called for Audit

DO NOT apply unless ALL your hours, requirements and documentation are in order

Recertification Application Routes

Sitting the IBCLC Exam

Collect CERPs

Meet the additional requirements

- Decide on the spring or autumn exam
- Apply when the application period opens
- Pay the fee

- Take your CE Self-Assessment asap. This creates your Professional Personal Development Plan (PPDP)
- Collected the required 75 CERPs
- Complete the online recertification application
- Pay the fee

Accepted to sit the exam

- Called for audit
- Submit the required documentation within the required time
- Accepted to sit the exam

Application accepted

- Called for audit
- Submit the required documentation within the given time
- Application accepted

Sit the exam and pass the exam

Recertified for a further 5yrs
The register updates 1st Jan and 1st July

IBCLC Registry Date Changes
Recertified for a further 5yrs

BE ORGANISED - start the recertification process again



Find out how LCGB supports recertifying IBCLCs

www.lcgb.org

Consider joining the Members IBCLCs Recertification WhatsApp group

'It's like jumping off a cliff and finding out it is a little step – I cannot thank this group enough ... I have spent last few weeks planning for audit. You have been amazing!'

'Thanks so much everyone. I was utterly confused and this group sorted me out!'

Recertifying by CERPs

Submitted one's application before September 30th during the year that your certification expires



All the IBCLC recertification requirements **MUST** be completed
within the previous 5yrs, prior to application

Assume you will be called for Audit

DO NOT submit unless ALL your requirements are met, documented and available in preparation for Audit

MEET THE CURRENT REQUIREMENTS

<https://ibclc-commission.org/how-to-become-an-ibclc/step-1-prepare-for-ibclc-recertification/>

- 1. Take your Continuing Education (CE) Self-Assessment** - This creates your Personal Professional Development Programme (PPDP)
<https://ibclc-commission.org/iblc-es-online-systems/#completing-the-ibclc-continuing-education-self-assessment-ce-self-assessment>
- 2. Complete 75 CERPs** - to include a minimum of 50 L-CERPs and contain;
 - CERPs required by your PPDL, linked to the DCO plus the remaining CERPs as chosen by you
 - 5 E-CERPs that include 2hrs of WHO Code education (2 E-CERPs)
 - Basic Life Support (BLS) certificated education (3 R-CERPs)
- 3. Minimum of 250 hours of lactation clinical practice**



Visit the IBCLC Commission - <https://ibclc-commission.org>

Click 'Recertify' ('Home' Page)

Work through Steps 1, 2 and 3



Log-in to your IBCLC account and complete the Recertification Application Form
Pay the Fee



Called for Audit

Complete and Submit Audit Requirements



IBCLC Registry Date Changes

You are recertified for a further 5yrs

Once recertified we recommend that you;

- start and maintain tracking your new CERPs and Clinical Hours as soon as you recertify
- retain all the corresponding Certificates in a file/email folder
- take your CE Self-assessment as soon as possible to guide your CERPs

Become a member of LCGB
membership@lcgb.org



COLLECTING YOUR CERPs

BE ORGANISED, always assume you will be called for audit, have all the required documentation available

Pre-awarded CERPs – The easiest way to collect CERPs

Many breastfeeding/lactation education providers pay to submit their educational activities in advance to IBCLC for CERPs verification. The number and type of CERPs awarded to an activity is shown on the certificate of attendance. An increasing number of providers also link the education to the DCO.

SELF CERTIFICATION OF CERPs – This is not as hard as one might think

The IBCLC Commission permits IBCLCs to submit educational activities that have not already been awarded CERPs. If planning to Self CERP visit the IBCLC Commission's Individual CERPs Guide for detailed information - [https://ibclc-](https://ibclc-commission.org/wpcontent/uploads/2023/08/2023_May_1_Individual_CERPs_Guide_FINAL.pdf)

[commission.org/wpcontent/uploads/2023/08/2023_May_1_Individual_CERPs_Guide_FINAL.pdf](https://ibclc-commission.org/wpcontent/uploads/2023/08/2023_May_1_Individual_CERPs_Guide_FINAL.pdf)

1 CERP is equivalent to 60 minutes of instructional time in subjects listed on the IBCLC DCO

Educational activities that can be counted for CERPs

- **Education**

IBCLC Learner: 1 CERP = 60 mins education including In-service education provided by employers.

IBCLC Presenter: The first time a presentation is made, speakers may receive CERPs for preparing the presentation = 2 CERPs for every 60 minutes of instruction.

Independent study modules or distance learning: accredited with another provider's continuing education points. The CERPs are based on the provider's published continuing education points.

College or university courses: a maximum of 25 CERPs for one semester (10 weeks or longer) of a subject/course at university/college as part of a degree.

- **Volunteer Service**

2 L-CERPs for each full year of volunteer service, on the board of a non-governmental organisation that promotes and/or supports breastfeeding. To be within the five-year recertification period, with a maximum of 10 L-CERPs / five-year recertification period.

- **Publications** - All publications must be specific to human lactation and breastfeeding.

Poster presentation = 5 L-CERPs

Development of a video for health professionals = 5 L-CERPs

Primary author or co-author of an original, hospital protocol or policy = 5 L-CERPs

Primary author or co-author of an article, abstract or chapter, published in a refereed journal or edited book = 15 L-CERPs

Completion of a Master's thesis/doctoral dissertation within a completed degree = 75 L-CERPs

- **Clinical Observations**

1 L-CERP / 120 minutes of observing a certified IBCLC's clinical practice. NB. The observed IBCLC must have recertified at least once (5+ years) and have a current IBCLC certification.

- **Pathway 3 Mentorship** - This is Pathway is uncommon in the UK but verified Pathway 3 mentors may receive CERPs for their service.