



May 9, 2020

Dear IBLCE Stakeholders:

The care provided to breastfeeding families is always important, yet is particularly important now. What is clearer now than even just one month ago is that COVID-19 will impact how aspiring IBCLCs can earn clinical supervision hours, or how IBCLCs can provide them, not just in the short-term but in the mid-term as well.

Therefore, IBLCE is updating its guidance and issuing this [*Updated Interim Guidance on the Use of Technology to Meet Pathways 1, 2, and 3 Clinical Practise Requirements*](#). This updated guidance document supersedes the previous interim guidance issued in April and provides both new guidance with respect to IBCLC Eligibility Pathway 3 (Mentorship with an IBCLC), as well as updated guidance with respect to Pathway 1 (Recognised Health Professionals and Recognised Breastfeeding Support Counsellors) and Pathway 2 (Accredited Lactation Academic Programmes).

Highlights include:

- **Pathway 2** candidates can now earn **100%** of the minimum 300 hours of directly supervised lactation specific clinical practise through secure technology platforms.
- **Pathway 3** candidates can now earn **100%** of their 500 hours of directly supervised lactation specific clinical practise through secure technology platforms.
- The updated [*Pathway 3 Plan Guide*](#) provides information regarding how candidates and their mentors can work together and towards the clinical hours requirement remotely. The guide also includes updated time sheets and other forms to track how clinical practise hours are supervised.

We hope that this updated information will be helpful to you in working toward clinical hours eligibility requirements, whether you are an aspiring IBCLC or a clinical supervisor or mentor. Thank you for noting that this is interim guidance only and, as

previously shared, IBLCE is conducting a more comprehensive review of how IBLCE eligibility pathways can be met with further information available in November 2020.

This announcement and revised [*Pathway 3 Plan Guide*](#) and [*Updated Interim Guidance on the Use of Technology to Meet Pathways 1, 2, and 3 Clinical Practise Requirements*](#) will be available in all certification programme languages soon.

If you have questions, please reach out to the [IBLCE regional location](#) that serves you. We are happy to assist you.

Please stay well and thank for your work on behalf of breastfeeding families worldwide, now and always!

The Board & Staff of IBLCE
