



## **Reenvisioning and Advancing the Future of Professional Lactation Care Around the Globe**

### **Frequently Asked Questions (FAQs)**

#### **I am an IBCLC. What do these changes mean for me and my credential?**

With respect to IBCLC certification, it will be business as usual, with this work assumed by the Commission.

These organisational changes allow IBLCE and affiliates greater capacity to heighten the visibility of the IBCLC and the lactation profession. IBCLC standards will continue to be governed by IBCLCs, as well as a public member, for stakeholders including the public and the IBCLC community.

#### **How does this structure preserve the integrity of the IBCLC?**

The IBCLC Commission will have oversight of all “essential certification decisions” including the IBCLC examination as well as eligibility and recertification requirements. Those with exposure to IBCLC examination content are precluded from engaging in teaching on information included in the Detailed Content Outline which forms the basis of the IBCLC examination, so as before there will not be “teaching to the test” and the integrity of the IBCLC programme is preserved. Like other lactation training entities, the Global Centre for Lactation Training (GCLT) will not be involved in IBCLC examination development or IBCLC essential certification activities.

#### **Is this sort of structure permitted?**

Yes, this structure is not only permitted but specifically referenced as a potential option in the third-party accreditation standards governing the IBCLC certification programme. It is a structure used by other groups in the credentialing space.

#### **How can a credentialing organisation offer education and training?**

As shared above, many credentialing organisations do; it is common and in fact, accreditation standards for certification programmes specifically permit this option.

The IBCLC Commission makes essential certification decisions including determining requirements, both initial and recertification, and as related to the IBCLC examination. The Global Centre for Lactation Training (GCLT) is a legal entity which is neither responsible for, nor has access to, IBCLC examination content and does not determine eligibility, (re)certification requirements, examination content, or pass/fail standards.

**Why is there a need for a training organisation?**

Data analysis reveals that there is ongoing demand for high quality lactation education and training. Additionally, the credentialing profession is responding to a diversity of professional needs and is now offering a greater variety of quality programming and products. As a globally recognised leader in the lactation field, it simply makes sense to expand and diversify offerings to help meet growing, and varied, needs.

**Are IBLCE or affiliates transitioning to membership organisations?**

No, IBLCE’s strategic plan does not include any strategic initiatives to transition IBLCE, or its affiliates, to membership organisations. As you know, there are a number of professional lactation and peer-to-peer associations. IBLCE has not been, and will not now be, a membership organisation.