

**For Immediate Release**  
**January 26, 2026**

## **IBLCE Announces CEO Search**

Sara Blair Lake, J.D., CAE has announced her plan to retire as the Chief Executive Officer of the International Board of Lactation Consultant Examiners® (IBLCE®). She has served as IBLCE's CEO since 2011.

During her tenure, Lake led substantial growth and international expansion of the International Board Certified Lactation Consultant® (IBCLC®) certification programme, which now includes more than 39,000 IBCLCs across 137 countries worldwide.



A recognised expert in international credentialing and accreditation, Lake is a past Chair of the Institute for Credentialing Excellence (I.C.E.) and its Nominations Committee. She previously served as Chair of the National Commission for Certifying Agencies (NCCA) of I.C.E., the accreditation body for professional certification programmes, including the IBCLC certification. She also served as the Chair of the Certified Association Executive (CAE) Commission of the American Society of Association Executives (ASAE).

“IBLCE is incredibly grateful for Sara’s extraordinary leadership over the last 15 years and her unwavering commitment to advancing global public health and the professional practice of lactation consultation,” said IBLCE Board Chair Dr Neelam Jawad, MBBS, MCPS, IBCLC. “Her contributions have made an indelible impact on IBLCE and families worldwide.”

The search for IBLCE’s new CEO will open shortly. IBLCE is pleased to partner with Vetted Solutions, a leading executive search firm specialising in association and nonprofit recruiting and consulting.

The next CEO will be an impassioned, global credentialing leader and collaborative team builder, focused on the strategic advancement of IBLCE & Affiliates and its mission to serve the

global public interest by advancing professional practice in lactation consultation and support through standard-setting and credentialing.

Interested candidates may reach out to [IBLCECEOSearch@vettedsolutions.com](mailto:IBLCECEOSearch@vettedsolutions.com) with questions. A full position profile will be available shortly.

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**About IBLCE:**

IBLCE®, or the International Board of Lactation Consultant Examiners®, is an international credentialing body whose mission is to serve the global public interest by advancing professional practice in lactation consultation and support through credentialing. IBLCE established the International Board Certified Lactation Consultant® (IBCLC®) certification programme in 1985. There are over 39,000 IBCLCs in 137 countries.