

Lactation Education Counselor Certificate

Overview

Lactation Education Counselor Certificate

This comprehensive certificate is intended for health professionals and other interested individuals to take the Certified Lactation Counselor (CLC) Exam through the [Academy of Lactation Policy and Practice's Aggregate Pathway](#). The LEC course meets the requirement of 95 hours of education within the past year that relates directly to the WHO/UNICEF (World Health Organization/United Nations Children's Fund) breastfeeding counseling training course.

The certificate furnishes the basic information necessary to promote breastfeeding and to interact in the breastfeeding situation by assisting and encouraging the breastfeeding triad of mother, baby, and support person. Topics include basic anatomy and physiology of lactation, early attachment of the baby, hospital care, support during the postpartum stage, common concerns and solutions, and appliances and apparatuses used in breast/chestfeeding. At completion of the course students can provide support, education, and counseling to breast/chestfeeding dyads. The Lactation Education Counselor Certificate can be completed in two quarters. This is an asynchronous course with monthly live, online "office hours" with the instructor.

The lectures are recorded, so no need to log in at a specific time, however assignments and quizzes are due weekly. The prerecorded lectures are four to five hours per week in addition to two to three hours of reading and assignments. The course takes approximately six to eight hours per week to complete and you are able to work ahead.

This certificate fulfills the Academic and Counseling requirements to sit for the Certified Lactation Counselor Exam provided by ALPP (Academy of Lactation Policy and Practice). Students are provided with a Counseling Skills Attestation which is proof of mastery of the skills and competencies necessary for breastfeeding counseling through directly supervised lactation care.

Canvas, our online learning platform, is not compatible with smart phones or tablet devices. We recommend students plan to use a laptop or desktop for our courses.

The textbook for this class:
 Core Curriculum for Interdisciplinary Lactation Care 2nd
 by Spencer, Campbell, Chamberlain
 ISBN / ASIN: 9781284255515

You may purchase textbooks via the [UC San Diego Bookstore](#).

The 20 hour online, asynchronous [Lactation Education Refresher course](#) is intended for students to take three years after the Lactation Education Counselor (LEC) Certificate has been completed.

Courses

Required Course <small>Required Course</small>	
TITLE & COURSE NUMBER	UNITS
Lactation Education Counselor RMED-40039	9.5

Admission

There will be a \$95 fee upon acceptance into the program.

From the 'Apply Now' button, login to your student account, complete the online application, and pay the application fee if applicable. It is preferable that you create an account before proceeding if you have not already done so.

Candidates are encouraged to apply in the certificate program as early as possible to take advantage of program benefits. See Certificate FAQs for more information.

Contact

Healthcare & Behavioral Sciences. Call 858-534-9263 or Email: ucsd lactation@ucsd.edu

Certificate Requirements

You are expected to complete the minimum certificate requirements, i.e., all approved required courses and the minimum number of required elective units, in effect at the time of registration regardless of any requirement changes at a later date. Prerequisite courses are not considered part of the minimum credit unit requirements of a certificate. All certificate courses must be enrolled in for credit (with a letter grade or pass/no pass grading option) and, unless the certificate program states otherwise, with a passing grade of at least a C- or better to earn the certificate.

While all courses must be successfully completed with a passing grade, the Extension academic department responsible for the certificate has the discretion to elevate the minimum grade you must earn and/or specify that courses (elective and/ or required) be taken for a letter grade. A third party, e.g., employer, Workforce Partnership, credentialing authority, also has the right to increase the minimum certificate requirements by increasing the minimum acceptable grade and time to complete the certificate program. In those cases, the minimum certificate requirements, as specified by the third party, supersede the above.

Transfer Credits

In order to receive a certificate at UC San Diego Extension, you must fulfill all minimum unit requirements of a certificate with transcribed, credit-bearing coursework from an accredited institution. The number of units that can be transferred, however, varies depending on where the academic credit was received. Non-transcribed continuing education courses or courses from a non-accredited institution are not accepted for transfer.

Units of courses completed at educational institutions operating on the semester system should be converted to a value consistent with the quarter system, i.e., one semester unit is equivalent to two-thirds of a quarter unit. The number of units of the course completed outside of Extension must be at least equal to the unit value of the certificate course you are petitioning to transfer. Similarly, the number of units that can be transferred is determined by the number of units associated with the Extension certificate course and not the unit value granted elsewhere.

If you have successfully completed comparable courses at another accredited college or university within five years certificate coursework began at UC San Diego Extension, and you earned at least a "C-" in each, you may petition to transfer up to a third of the certificate program units, not to exceed two courses for professional certificates and one course for specialized certificates. If you have successfully completed courses at a UC campus within five years certificate coursework began at UC San Diego Extension, you may petition to transfer up to half of the units required for a certificate program. To request transfer credit, please submit a written petition, including an official transcript and course descriptions (with syllabus) to the academic department listed in the certificate description for consideration.

Course Substitutions

Only approved courses count toward your certificate program. Due to the post-baccalaureate level of Extension coursework and the intent of many certificate program students to further specialize and develop their current careers, you may have acquired industry knowledge outside of the classroom. If you can demonstrate mastery of the knowledge imparted in a required certificate course through personal or professional experiences, you may petition to substitute a course. In that case, you may have the option to take another Extension course as determined by the academic department in lieu of the required course. You may waive the course requirement but not the unit requirement. Because of the curricular importance of required certificate coursework, you can only petition to substitute up to half the total required course units. To request a substitution, please submit a written petition, including evidence of your knowledge, to the academic department listed in the certificate description for consideration.

Certificate Completion

Once all certificate requirements have been successfully completed, please request a certificate audit through the student portal, My Extension, at <https://myextension.ucsd.edu>. Once you have logged in to My Extension, go to the "My Courses" tab and click on the program under "My Certificate Programs". From there, click on "Request Certificate Audit" and complete the form.