

In 2011 the United States Surgeon General's Office drafted a document concerning breastfeeding called :

The U.S. Surgeon General's Call to Action

In the Call to Action the U.S. Surgeon General specifically stated this regarding IBCLCs:

"International Board Certified Lactation Consultants (IBCLC) are health care professionals certified in lactation care. IBCLCs have specific clinical expertise and training in how to manage complex breastfeeding problems. IBCLCs need to be involved as core members of lactation care teams."

Action 11, which addressed "Lactation Care Teams" stated:

"Action 11: Guarantee equitable access to services provided by International Board Certified Lactation Consultants.

Include support for lactation as an essential medical service for pregnant women, breastfeeding mothers, and children.

Ensure that reimbursement of IBCLCs is not dependent on their having other professional certification or licensure.

Work to increase the number of racial and ethnic minority IBCLCs to better mirror the U.S. population."

Source: U.S. Department of Health and Human Services. The Surgeon General's Call to Action to Support Breastfeeding. U.S. Department of Health and Human Services, Office of the Surgeon General, 2011. [Read the Executive Summary Online](#)