



Memorandum

#13-057

TO: WIC Local Agency Directors

FROM: Linda Brumble, Unit Manager
Nutrition Education/Clinic Services Unit
Nutrition Services Section

DATE: May 27, 2013

SUBJECT: FY 2014 Funding for Lactation Services

The State agency (SA) will provide additional lactation services (LS) funding in FY 2014 (October 2013-September 2014). All Local Agencies (LAs) are welcome to apply for the additional funding by completing the online form referenced below. **LA LS funding will not be renewed automatically in FY14. Only those LAs returning a completed form will be eligible to receive funding. If you are interested in receiving FY2014 LS funding as outlined in this memo, please complete the survey at <https://www.surveymonkey.com/s/3GMB9FQ> by June 21, 2013.**

LAs should use the LS funding to employ International Board Certified Lactation Consultants (IBCLC) to assist participants with difficult breastfeeding problems that are beyond the scope of practice of other staff. If your LA cannot find an IBCLC in your area, select a staff member to be your designated breastfeeding expert and use the LS funding to train/prepare that staff member to sit for the IBLCE board exam. You can help the staff member reach the goal by using LS funding to reimburse staff for prerequisite courses and trainings, to purchase study guides and reference books, and to reimburse for prep courses and exam costs.

LS funding may be used for the following reasons:

1. To reimburse LAs for fees paid:
 - To Counsel WIC moms with breastfeeding problems that are beyond the scope of practice of other WIC staff.
 - To provide training to WIC staff, to conduct special breastfeeding classes, to support group sessions, or to assist with WIC-sponsored workshops for health-care professionals.

This funding may pay for lactation consults by qualified people who are already on contract, qualified people that can be put on contract according to policy AC 16.0, or a qualified employee after normal working hours depending on LA personnel policies and procedures.

2. To reimburse LA staff for fees paid to prepare for (i.e., prerequisite courses, prep courses and study materials) or to take the International Board of Lactation Consultant Examiners (IBLCE) exam. See www.iblce.org for more information.
3. To pay for supplies that would complement lactation consults, such as large and extra-large breast pump flanges, nipple shields and shells, nursing bras, and supplemental nursing systems.
4. To pay for reference books and teaching aids for staff, such as breastfeeding dolls, stuffed breasts, belly balls, flip charts, and other teaching tools or supplies to create your own teaching tools.
5. To pay for equipment to establish and supply a nursing room to be used for lactation consultations and a private place for WIC moms to nurse and pump.

LS Funding may be used for applicable breastfeeding expenses incurred from October 2013-September 2014. The maximum dollar amount available to each LA will depend on the number of LAs pursuing this funding.

If you have questions or require additional information regarding LS funding, please contact Tracy Erickson at tracy.erickson@dshs.state.tx.us or (512) 341-4521 or Cristina Garcia at cristina.garcia@dshs.state.tx.us or (512) 341-4583.