International Board of Lactation Consultant Examiners® (IBLCE®)

IBCLC Commission

International Board Certified Lactation Consultant® (IBCLC®) Examination

April 2025 Administration

Test Analysis Report Summary

This document is a summary of the IBLCE psychometric Internal Technical Report for the IBCLC Examination April 2025 Administration reported by ACS Ventures June 2025

Overview

This report documents the psychometric analyses performed on the results for the 1,517 test takers from the April 2025 administration of the IBLCLC examination for a single examination form. The test was administered using two delivery modalities: test center (TC: 1,250 test takers, 82%) and live remote proctoring (LRP: 267 test takers, 18%).

Analyses conducted by ACS included classical test theory (CTT) analyses, Rasch analyses, response time analyses, and Rasch-based equating. Analyses of delivery modality (TC vs. LRP), certification status, and eligibility pathway, and data forensics were also performed. **The equated number-right passing standard for the April 2025 examination is 132 (75.4%), resulting in 83.8% of the candidates passing.**

Established statistical procedures for test equating were conducted to adjust for differences in difficulty across test forms and to maintain the minimum competency standard pre-established by the IBCLC Commission. The IBCLC Commission approved and adopted a final cut score of 132 raw score units (out of 175) for the April 2025 test form.

Data forensics analyses were conducted as part of the standard examination evaluation processes.

Test Level Statistics

Table 1 shows the following test-level statistics for the above-mentioned examination for all candidates:

- **Reliability** (Cronbach's coefficient alpha) is the overall consistency of the test scores. A test is said to have a high reliability if it produces similar test scores under consistent conditions.
- **Decision Consistency** (Brennan & Kane, 1977) measures the extent to which classification decisions (i.e., pass/fail status) would agree with decisions that would be made if candidate could be tested with a different test form. The calculation was based on an equated number-right passing score of 132. See equating section below.
- **Standard Error of Measurement** (SEM) is a practical index of the precision of the test scores and is commonly used to get a range which indicates where the candidate's score might fall if the test was perfectly reliable. A confidence interval is created by adding and subtracting the SEM from a test score.

Table 1. Test-level statistics

Statistic	Value	Interpretation
Reliability (Cronbach's coefficient alpha)	.87	High; test has good reliability
Decision Consistency (Brennan-Kane index)	.91	High; test produces consistent pass/fail scores
Standard Error of Measurement	4.72	Low; the error around test scores is appropriately low

Table 2 summaries the test scores and number of test takers by certification status—initial examination, lapsed, recertification, or repeat (i.e., previously failed).

Table 2. Test Score Summary by Certification Status

Status	Number of Test Takers	Test Score (out of 175)					Passing Rate
		Minimum	Median	Mean	Maximum	Std. Dev.	
Inactive	4	123	147.5	143.3	155	14.7	75%
Initial	1,360	2	146	143.9	165	12.8	87%
Lapsed	0						
Recert-5	6	139	149	148.3	161	7.9	100%
Recert-10	3	149	158	155.7	160	5.9	100%
Recert-15	4	143	150	150.8	160	7.7	100%
Recert-20	1	146	146	146.0	146		100%
Recert-25	4	148	151	151.3	156	3.6	100%
Recert-30	1	159	159	159.0	159		100%
Recert-35	1	152	152	152.0	152		100%
Repeat	133	97	133	130.5	158	12.3	53%
Total	**1,517**	**2**	**145**	**142.8**	**165**	**13.3**	**84%**

*Passing rate is based on an equated number right passing score of 132 for April 2025.

References

ACS Ventures (2025) *Test Analysis Report International Board Certified Lactation Consultant® (IBCLC®) Certification Examination April 2025 Administration*