

International Board of Lactation Consultant Examiners® (IBLCE®)

IBCLC Commission

**International Board Certified Lactation Consultant® (IBCLC®) Examination**

**September 2025 Administration**

**Test Analysis Report Summary**

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

## Overview

This report documents the psychometric analyses performed on the results for 3,186 test takers from the September 2025 administration of the IBCLC examination for a single examination form in the 10 IBCLC examination languages. The test was administered using two delivery modalities: test center (TC: 2,821 test takers) and live remote proctoring (LRP: 365 test takers).

The IBCLC examination consists of 175 scored items. Examinees were allowed 240 minutes to complete the standard examination.

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, eligibility pathway, and data forensics were also performed. **The equated number-right passing standard for the September 2025 examination was 130 (74.3%), resulting in 73.6% 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 130 raw score units (out of 175) for the September 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 (Live Remote Proctored (LRP) and Test Center (TC) and Total):

- **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 student’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.
- **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 130. See equating section below.
- **Reliability** is the overall consistency of the test scores. A test is said to have a high reliability if it produces similar results under consistent conditions.

Table 1. Test-level statistics

Statistic	LRP	TC	Total	Interpretation
SEM (Raw)	4.92	5.09	5.07	Low; the error around test scores is appropriately low
Decision Consistency (Brennan-Kane index)	0.90	0.89	0.89	High; test produces consistent pass/fail scores
Reliability (Cronbach's coefficient alpha)	0.87	0.88	0.88	High; test has good reliability

Table 2 summarises the test scores and number of test takers by certification status—initial examination, lapsed, recertification, or repeat.

Status	Number of Test Takers	Test Score (out of 175)					Passing Rate
		Minimum	Median	Mean	Maximum	Std. Dev.	
Inactive	12	133	149	148.3	161	9.2	100%
Initial	2,675	57	140	137.4	168	15.0	76%
Lapsed	0						
Recert-5	62	118	144.5	144.9	166	9.6	95%
Recert-10	23	127	139	141.2	159	9.6	91%
Recert-15	41	111	147	144.7	167	12.9	90%
Recert-20	11	146	151	150.5	159	3.9	100%
Recert-25	13	130	147	146.4	164	10.6	100%
Recert-30	6	130	148	145.7	154	8.3	100%
Recert-35	0						
Repeat	343	78	129	127.8	153	11.6	47%
<b>Total</b>	<b>3,186</b>	<b>57</b>	<b>139</b>	<b>136.8</b>	<b>168</b>	<b>14.9</b>	<b>74%</b>

\*Passing rate is based on an equated number right passing score of 130 for September 2025.

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## References

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