

Lactation Consultant Training Certificate Program FAQ

Frequently Asked Questions

What does a typical week look like? What is the time commitment for this program?

This program is designed to be completed in one academic year, or two semesters.

A typical week in the program includes:

- Two classes scheduled on the same day:
 - One virtual class: NUT 4990/5990 (Fall) and NUT 5992/5992 (Spring), Clinical Internship
 - One in-person class: NUT 4950/5950, Lactation Management, or NUT 4970/5970, Clinical Skills for Breastfeeding Support
- One 5- to 8-hour day of clinical internship
- One 1- to 3-hour breastfeeding support group

Outside of class and internship, students should expect to spend at least 2 to 6 hours on homework each week.

Are there additional requirements outside of class and internship?

Yes. In addition to class and internship, students are required to attend:

- Orientation, once before the program begins
- Breastfeeding SIM Lab, two to three times per semester
- Mothers' Milk Bank tour, once per academic year
- Prenatal Breastfeeding Class in Parker, at least once each semester
- Skills Lab, once per semester

What counts as clinical hours, and what counts as educational hours?

Clinical hours must include a client or case, whether real or hypothetical, and must be supervised or conducted by an IBCLC. Clinical hours may include:

- Virtual Clinical Internship, NUT 4990: one hour per consultation video watched
- Breastfeeding SIM Lab: duration of the simulation
- Breastfeeding support groups: duration of the meeting
- Community breastfeeding classes: duration of the class
- Case studies: hours determined by Dr. Bolton and IBLCE
- Program orientation and Skills Labs: hours determined by Dr. Bolton

Educational hours do not include a client or case. Students do not need to track these hours because the required education hours are completed through the program, although students may keep their own records. Educational hours include:

- Conferences
- Mothers' Milk Bank tour

Besides tuition, what other costs and fees can I expect in this program?

Estimated Expense	Estimated Cost
Textbook	\$100
Campus parking permit, one day per week	Approximately \$130 per semester
Professional liability insurance	\$37
Scrubs	\$10–\$40
HealthStream modules	\$50
IBCLC examination	\$695

How do I track my clinical hours?

Students may maintain their records using the system that works best for them, but clinical hours must be tracked every week.

- Clinical hours must be signed off daily by the preceptor or instructor when attending a support group or community class.
- The person signing off on clinical hours must be an IBCLC.
- Students must complete 300 clinical hours before registering for the IBCLC examination.
- Clinical hour records may be audited by IBLCE when a student registers for the IBCLC examination.

How do I track my clinical competencies?

Students are responsible for reviewing their competencies weekly and bringing their competency log to every clinical internship day.

- Ask the preceptor to sign off on any competencies completed each week.
- Each clinical competency is required only once, although students are encouraged to complete competencies multiple times when possible.
- Competency records may be audited by IBLCE when a student registers for the IBCLC examination.

What should I wear to my clinical internship?

Each clinical placement has its own requirements. Students should speak with their preceptor before beginning the rotation.

- Hospital or medical setting: MSU Denver scrubs are required.

- Private practice or community-based setting: students will likely be asked not to wear scrubs.

Regardless of setting, students are expected to maintain basic professionalism and be neat, clean, and well-groomed. Clothing must be in good repair, modest, and appropriate for a professional environment. This includes no visible undergarments, exposed midriff, low necklines, or sheer clothing.

For additional guidance, review the Student Policy Handbook.

What courses will I register for?

The graduate certificate requires 18 credits completed across six courses. The sequence below reflects the catalog modified July 10, 2026.

Term	Required Courses	Credits
Fall Semester	NUT 5950 - Lactation Management	3
	NUT 5990 - Lactation Internship I	1
	NUT 5991 - Clinical Lactation Practicum II	5
Spring Semester	NUT 5970 - Clinical Skills for Breastfeeding Support	3
	NUT 5992 - Clinical Lactation Practicum III	1
	NUT 5993 - Clinical Lactation Practicum IV	5
Program Total		18 credits

What do I do if I have to miss a day of my clinical internship?

Email Dr. Bolton and your preceptor as soon as you know about the absence. Personal time off during internship is strongly discouraged. When an absence is unavoidable, Dr. Bolton must be informed so that clinical hour requirements can still be met. Absences may be excused at Dr. Bolton's discretion.