

**TAKE THE EXAM...  
BECOME A LAMAZE® CERTIFIED  
CHILDBIRTH EDUCATOR**

**2009 Exam Booklet  
and Application**

DYNAMIC

KNOWLEDGEABLE

EVIDENCE-BASED

RESPECTED

CONFIDENT



*Take the next step and achieve the highest  
standards in childbirth education.  
You may qualify to sit for the certification exam.*

*Call us today!  
We'll be with you every step of the way!*

# WHY BECOME LAMAZE CERTIFIED?

A Lamaze educator is a skilled and knowledgeable teacher who guides women and their families through the extraordinary journey of pregnancy and birth. Integrating traditional wisdom and contemporary knowledge with the high-tech world of modern obstetrics, Lamaze Certified Childbirth Educators (LCCE) provide women and their families with evidence-based education on nature's simple plan for birth. LCCE educators work collaboratively with other birth professionals to advance the mission of Lamaze International—to promote, support and protect normal birth through education and advocacy—and to achieve the Lamaze vision for “a world of confident women choosing normal birth.”

For nearly 50 years, Lamaze International has been the leading provider of evidence-based education programs that prepare childbirth educators to teach with skill and confidence. The Lamaze certification program meets the highest standards for validity, reliability and fairness, and is recognized as the only such program accredited by the National Commission for Certifying Agencies (NCCA), the accrediting body of the National Organization of Competency Assurance (NOCA). For more information regarding NOCA and the NCCA, please visit the NOCA Web site at [www.noca.org](http://www.noca.org).



Flexible eligibility requirements make Lamaze certification achievable for experienced childbirth educators, midwives and midwifery students, doulas, nurses and other health professionals, as well as those new to childbirth education. The Lamaze credential demonstrates to maternal-child health professionals and expectant families that you have met a standard level of knowledge and skill—the LCCE credential is the mark of a competent, highly qualified childbirth educator who promotes, supports and protects normal birth.

Certification by Lamaze is the most respected and recognized credential in childbirth education. Lamaze certification offers you the opportunity to:

- ▼ Gain and validate skills and knowledge
- ▼ Increase confidence in your teaching ability
- ▼ Enhance professional opportunities and career development
- ▼ Expand knowledge of resources and teaching strategies
- ▼ Earn the recognition and respect of colleagues

# The Certification Process

*The certification process begins after a candidate has successfully completed all coursework and components of the Lamaze Childbirth Educator Program or when a candidate qualifies as an open exam candidate (experienced educator) or a midwife or midwifery student. The following steps outline the certification process for exam candidates.*

## STEP 1 ELIGIBILITY CRITERIA

Lamaze certification candidates may become eligible to sit for the exam in one of three ways. They may qualify as a traditional candidate who successfully has completed a Lamaze Childbirth Educator Program, as an experienced educator, or as a midwife or midwifery student.

New educators qualify to take the exam by successfully completing all of the required components of the Lamaze Childbirth Educator Program. Please visit the Lamaze International Web site at [www.lamaze.org](http://www.lamaze.org) or contact the Administrative Office at 800-368-4404 for details.

To qualify as an experienced childbirth educator, you must have documentation of teaching 144 hours of childbirth education classes in the last five years, **AND** be a licensed health professional (i.e., CNM, RN, RPT, MD), **OR** hold a bachelor's degree or higher, **OR** successfully have completed a formal course on teaching childbirth education (i.e., Lamaze, ALACE, ICEA, hypnobirthing, Bradley, BEST, Birthing from Within, Birth Works or CAPP), **AND** have documentation of 25 contact hours of continuing education applicable to childbirth education within the past three years. Childbirth education may include pregnancy, birth, breastfeeding, sibling and postpartum classes.

Midwives and midwifery students may qualify to sit for the exam following attendance at a one-day "Fast-Track" seminar. Due to limited availability of such seminars, midwives and midwifery students may elect to attend the full three-day seminar.

Please note, a Lamaze Childbirth Educator Program is also an opportunity to earn contact hours.

### DATES TO REMEMBER

Exam Date	April 22, 2009
Foreign Language Exam Application Deadline	February 20, 2009
LaserGrade Phone/Web Registration Opens	March 4, 2009
Exam Application Deadline	March 13, 2009
Results Available	June 19, 2009

Exam Date	October 23, 2009
Foreign Language Exam Application Deadline	August 26, 2009
LaserGrade Phone/Web Registration Opens	September 4, 2009
Exam Application Deadline	September 16, 2009
Results Available	December 18, 2009

## STEP 2

### COMPLETE THE APPLICATION

All candidates must complete and submit the Certification Exam Application along with all required documentation and fees to the Lamaze Administrative Office by the application deadline. All graduates of Lamaze Accredited Childbirth Educator Programs must receive a signed completion form from their program director. The candidate must attach a copy of the signed form to their application or the application is considered incomplete and will not be processed. Applications submitted by experienced educators will be sent to a review committee for approval prior to the examination.

## STEP 3

### NOTIFICATION OF ELIGIBILITY

Each exam candidate is notified of their eligibility to sit for the exam no less than two (2) weeks prior to the examination date. An Exam Authorization Letter and an Exam Voucher that includes a unique registration number is mailed to each candidate indicating approval to register for the exam at a LaserGrade® Computer Testing Center.

## STEP 4

### RESERVE SEAT AT TEST SITE

Exam candidates must reserve an exam seat after receiving the Exam Authorization Letter, which includes a unique registration number and an Exam Voucher from Lamaze International. The registration number must be provided to LaserGrade when scheduling an examination appointment. Seat reservations are made on a first-come, first-served basis. To locate a testing center, visit [www.lasergrade.com](http://www.lasergrade.com) or call LaserGrade at **800-211-2754**. Actual test site locations may be within the city limits or in the surrounding metropolitan area. Please note that test sites may vary from one exam administration to another and are subject to change. For exam candidates testing outside of the United States, a LaserGrade testing center may not be available. In this instance, an alternative test site can be created. Please allow time for staff to set up a site and secure a proctor. Information will be included in your Exam Authorization Letter regarding the assigned test site location.

## STEP 5

### EXAM ADMINISTRATION

The exam is administered at designated test sites twice each year. The Exam Voucher and photo identification will need to be presented upon arrival at the test site.

## STEP 6

### EXAM SCORING

All exams are scored and analyzed by an independent psychometrician and reviewed by members of the Lamaze Certification Council.

## STEP 7

### INITIAL EXAM SCORE RELEASE

Initial exam results (pass or fail) are posted to the Lamaze International Web site at [www.lamaze.org](http://www.lamaze.org) within eight (8) weeks of the exam date. Results may be accessed using the unique registration number provided on your Authorization Voucher. Exam candidates also are notified in writing and sent their score reports that outline their success or failure to achieve certification status.

## STEP 8

### OFFICIAL ANNOUNCEMENT OF CERTIFICATION

Approximately four (4) weeks after the initial notification of certification exam results, successful candidates receive a formal certificate, recertification information and a certification card. Licensing information and a press release recognizing their status as a Lamaze Certified Childbirth Educator (LCCE) also will be provided.

The Lamaze Certification Council does not limit the number of times a candidate may retake the certification exam. Candidates wishing to repeat the exam within two (2) years may do so without re-establishing eligibility, but must submit a new application and remit a re-examination fee. Thereafter, to be re-tested, candidates must reapply, submit all applicable fees, application and documentation to re-establish eligibility.

# EXAM

## AT-A-GLANCE

The certification exam consists of 150 multiple-choice questions. The questions reflect essential information that a childbirth educator should know — the Competencies of a Lamaze Certified Childbirth Educator (see the exam blueprint on page 6). Three (3) hours are allotted for completion of the examination. The Certification Council invites top scorers of previous exams to assist with the development of test items and to make the final selection of questions for the item bank. At the time the items are written, the level of difficulty of each item is identified. In general, the items that require some level of analysis, rather than simple recall of information, are considered more difficult. In addition, the incorrect options for each question (distractors) are rated. A question that has more “sophisticated” distractors and requires a higher level of knowledge is rated as more difficult. At least 30 percent of the questions on the certification exam are application questions that require analysis, rather than simple recall of information.

The passing score for the certification exam is different each time the exam is administered. After each exam administration, a psychometrician completes a statistical analysis. The Exam Development Committee reviews the statistics for each test question and if a particular question does not “perform” well, it may be eliminated from the scoring. The level of difficulty of the remaining items determines the passing score. An important feature of the exam is that those who sit for the exam are not compared to each other. Rather, individuals are compared to a standard, which is based on the level of difficulty of each test item. The passing score on the exam has ranged from 69 percent to 79 percent in past administrations. More detailed information regarding scoring is provided on the score report that each candidate receives following the exam. Historical information is available in the annual Certification Exam Report, which can be viewed online at [www.lamaze.org](http://www.lamaze.org).

“The exam was comprehensive and studying for it helped give me the confidence to go out and teach.”

A new LCCE Educator

# EXAM BLUEPRINT

## I. COMPETENCY ONE

**Promote the childbearing experience as a normal, natural and healthy process, which profoundly affects women and their families.**

**(16%) 24 questions**

- A. Lamaze Philosophy of Birth
- B. Meaning of Pregnancy and Birth
  - 1. Memories
  - 2. Impact of Birth on a Woman's Life
  - 3. Childbirth Satisfaction
  - 4. Cultural Influences
- C. Historical Perspectives of Birth
- D. Pregnancy
  - 1. Anatomy and Physiology
  - 2. Fetal Development
  - 3. Maternal Physical Changes
  - 4. Maternal Emotional Changes
  - 5. Social/Life Changes
- E. Process of Birth
  - 1. Anatomy and Physiology
  - 2. Onset of Labor
  - 3. Role of Pain
  - 4. Stages and Phases
  - 5. Physical and Emotional Responses
  - 6. Psychosocial Influences
- F. Breastfeeding
  - 1. Anatomy and Physiology
  - 2. Benefits to Mother, Baby and Society
  - 3. Factors that Influence Infant Feeding Decisions
- G. Postpartum
  - 1. Physical Changes
  - 2. Emotional Changes
  - 3. Socio-cultural Influences/Role Changes

## II. COMPETENCY TWO

**Assist women and their families to discover and use strategies that facilitate normal, natural and healthy pregnancy, birth, breastfeeding and early parenting. (30%) 45 questions**

- A. Pregnancy and Lifestyle Issues
  - 1. Nutrition
  - 2. Exercise
  - 3. Stress Management
  - 4. Safety and Hazards
  - 5. Family/Work
  - 6. Comfort Measures
- B. Theories of Pain and Pain Management
- C. Progress and Comfort in Labor and Birth
  - 1. Movement and Positioning
  - 2. Foods and Fluids
  - 3. Confidence
  - 4. Relaxation
  - 5. Environment
  - 6. Labor Support
  - 7. Touch, Acupressure, Massage
  - 8. Focused Attention
  - 9. Patterned Breathing
  - 10. Maternal Medical Complications
  - 11. Imagery
  - 12. Heat and Cold
  - 13. Music
  - 14. Aromatherapy
  - 15. Hydrotherapy
  - 16. Upright Positions for Birth
  - 17. Spontaneous Pushing
- D. Challenging Labors
  - 1. VBAC
  - 2. Back Labor
  - 3. Prolonged or Precipitous
  - 4. Induced

## E. Breastfeeding

- 1. Latch on and Positioning
  - 2. Support
  - 3. Early Problems and Solutions
  - 4. Guidelines for Referrals
  - 5. Cultural Influences
  - 6. Lifestyle Issues
- ## F. Postpartum
- 1. Family and Social Support
  - 2. Comfort
  - 3. Rest
  - 4. Nutrition
  - 5. Exercise
  - 6. Sexuality and Fertility

## III. COMPETENCY THREE

**Help women and their families to understand how interventions and complications influence the normal course of pregnancy, birth, breastfeeding and early postpartum.**

**(16%) 24 questions**

- A. Pregnancy Interventions
  - 1. Prenatal Testing
  - 2. Lifestyle Restrictions
- B. Birth Interventions
  - 1. Repeat Cesarean Birth
  - 2. Induction
  - 3. Restrictions on Movement, Eating/Drinking, Support
  - 4. Vaginal Examinations
  - 5. Continuous Electronic Fetal Monitoring
  - 6. Intravenous Fluids
  - 7. Epidural Anesthesia and Opiate Medications
  - 8. Episiotomy
  - 9. Instrumental Delivery
  - 10. Augmentation
  - 11. Cesarean Birth
  - 12. Amniotomy
  - 13. Directed Pushing
  - 14. Cascade of Interventions

- C. Breastfeeding and Early Postpartum; Interventions/Complications
  1. Separation of Mother and Baby
  2. Supplementation to Breastfeeding Babies
  3. Newborn Hypoglycemia
  4. Newborn Jaundice
  5. Circumcision
  6. Postpartum Mood Disorders
  7. Maternal Medical Complications
- D. Medical Complications of Pregnancy
  1. Warning Signs
  2. Diabetes
  3. Preterm Labor
  4. Post term Pregnancy
  5. Hyperemesis
  6. Multiple Gestation
  7. Infections
  8. Hypertensive Disorders
- E. Complications of Labor and Birth
  1. Premature Rupture of Membranes
  2. Malpresentations/CPD
  3. Prolapsed Cord
  4. Fetal Distress
  5. Cesarean Birth
- F. Unexpected Outcomes

#### IV. COMPETENCY FOUR

**Provide information and support that encourages attachment between babies and their families. (5%) 7 or 8 questions**

- A. Newborn Characteristics and Capabilities
  1. Physical
  2. Feeding Cues
  3. Activity/Sleep States
  4. Temperament
- B. Newborn Needs
  1. Physical
  2. Developmental
  3. Emotional
  4. Safety
- C. Process of Attachment
- D. Parent-Infant Interactions
- E. Family and Cultural Influences
- F. Lamaze Philosophy of Parenting

#### V. COMPETENCY FIVE

**Assist women and their families to make informed decisions for childbearing. (5%) 7 or 8 questions**

- A. Process of Informed Decision-Making
- B. Creating Personal Plans for Birth
- C. Communication and Negotiating Skills
- D. Strategies for Facilitating Normal Birth within the Context of Limited Options
- E. Mother-Friendly and Baby-Friendly Guidelines

#### VI. COMPETENCY SIX

**Act as an advocate to promote normal, natural, healthy and fulfilling childbirth experiences for women and their families. (5%) 7 or 8 questions**

- A. Changing the Culture of Birth to Support the Lamaze Philosophy
- B. Advocacy in the Classroom
- C. Advocacy in the Community
- D. Collaboration with Other Organizations
- E. Risks of Advocacy
- F. Influences of Vested Interest Group
- G. Concepts of Power, Influence, and Control

#### VII. COMPETENCY SEVEN

**Design, teach and evaluate a course in Lamaze preparation that increases women's confidence and ability to give birth. (23%) 34 or 35 questions**

- A. History of Lamaze Childbirth Education
- B. Evidence-Based Practice in Childbirth Education
- C. Ways in Which Individuals Learn
- D. Learning Environments
- E. Teacher Communication Skills
- F. Group Process
- G. Curriculum Development
  1. Needs Assessment
  2. Goals and Objectives
  3. Developing and Sequencing Content
  4. Teaching Strategies
  5. Course Evaluation
- H. Teaching Aids
- I. Legal and Ethical Issues Related to Professional Practice
- J. Establishing a Childbirth Education Practice
- K. Lamaze Standards for Childbirth Educators

“[The Exam Prep Course] inspired confidence and helped clarify what types of things to study.”

An Exam Candidate

# SAMPLE EXAM QUESTIONS

**B**elow, you will find a sample question from each Lamaze Competency Statement. These sample questions are intended to provide candidates with an idea of the types of questions that may appear on the certification exam.

## COMPETENCY ONE

A woman in your early pregnancy class asks when she will feel her baby move. You base your response on the knowledge that fetal movements are usually **FIRST** felt by the mother between:

- A. 6-10 weeks
- B. 11-15 weeks
- C. 16-20 weeks
- D. 21-24 weeks

## COMPETENCY TWO

A laboring woman has been pushing for 45 minutes in a semi-recumbent position, but has made no progress. Which of the following is **MOST** likely to promote the progress of labor?

- A. Changing her position
- B. Augmenting with pitocin
- C. Applying fundal pressure
- D. Prolonging breath holding with contractions

## COMPETENCY THREE

A birth report describes a labor that was progressing steadily to 4 cm, but later required pitocin augmentation and a forceps delivery. Which of the following common practices is **MOST** likely to have contributed to the need for pitocin and a forceps delivery?

- A. Bedrest
- B. Use of epidural anesthesia
- C. Withholding of foods and fluids
- D. Continuous electronic fetal monitoring

## COMPETENCY FOUR

The **BEST** way to facilitate mother/baby interaction in the immediate postpartum period is to ensure that the:

- A. Father is actively involved
- B. Mother has an unmedicated birth
- C. Mother and baby are not separated
- D. Prophylactic eye treatment is delayed

## COMPETENCY FIVE

By discussing the choices of analgesia and anesthesia for labor, you are enhancing the potential for your students' satisfaction with the childbirth experience by encouraging:

- A. Limited use of drugs
- B. Reliance on available technology
- C. Participation in decision-making

## COMPETENCY SIX

As a childbirth educator, you have been given the opportunity to distribute infant formula gift packets to your students. Which of the following is the **MOST** important factor to consider in making a decision about whether to distribute the packets?

- A. Students' economic status
- B. Rights of formula companies to advertise
- C. Students' interest in receiving free formula
- D. Ethics of promoting artificial infant feeding

## COMPETENCY SEVEN

Which of the following strategies is **MOST** likely to make learning of relaxation skills meaningful to participants?

- A. Allowing time in class for relaxation practice
- B. Providing a list of stress relievers
- C. Telling students how you handle stress in your own life
- D. Asking participants to identify how they handle everyday stress

SAMPLE QUESTION ANSWER KEY: (1) C; (2) A; (3) B; (4) C; (5) C; (6) D; (7) D

# RECOMMENDED STUDY RESOURCES

## THE STUDY GUIDE

The *Study Guide* is the core curriculum for the Lamaze Childbirth Educator Program. It also can be used as a self-study, self-assessment tool by experienced educators who are preparing to sit for the Lamaze Certification Exam or as a valuable resource and learning system for LCCE educators who want to assess and update their knowledge base.

Candidates in the Lamaze Childbirth Educator Program traditionally come from a wide variety of educational and experiential backgrounds. As a result, how the *Study Guide* is used varies from one person to another. Everything included in the *Study Guide* has direct application to the practice of childbirth education. Divided into seven goals—the Seven Competencies of a Lamaze Certified Childbirth Educator—the *Study Guide* provides specific learning objectives and key topics for each goal, as well as recommended readings and learning activities.

Reading the articles and participating in various learning activities throughout the *Study Guide* engages candidates in analyzing and evaluating what they are learning.

Upon enrollment in a Lamaze Accredited Childbirth Educator Program, candidates will receive access to the online *Study Guide*. The *Study Guide* is available in English (2008) and Spanish (2006). An international *Study Guide* has been developed for translation and cultural adaptation for use in other countries. Please contact the Lamaze Administrative Office for more information. The *Study Guide* may be purchased by Experienced Childbirth Educator or Midwifery Candidates by contacting the Lamaze Administrative Office at 800-368-4404.

\*Candidates enrolled in a program do not need to order the *Study Guide*.

## THE LAMAZE CERTIFIED CHILDBIRTH EDUCATOR EXAM PREP COURSE

This e-learning course allows you to practice your test-taking skills and try your hand at several questions similar to the ones you may find on the Lamaze exam. It also

provides information regarding the seven competencies covered in the exam, information on how the exam is constructed and helpful tips on how to study for the exam. Visit [www.lamaze.org](http://www.lamaze.org) for ordering information.

## RECOMMENDED READINGS

In addition to the *Study Guide*, Lamaze International has developed a list of recommended readings for Lamaze certification candidates. The list is compiled for use in conjunction with the *Study Guide*. Each of these texts contains pertinent information for the childbirth educator in the areas of pregnancy, labor support, breastfeeding and early parenting.

The texts are highly recommended as preparation for the Lamaze Certification Exam. Many of the items listed below along with many other resources are available for purchase through the Lamaze Bookstore and Media Center by visiting the Lamaze Web site at [www.lamaze.org](http://www.lamaze.org) or by calling 877-952-6293.

1. Lothian J. & DeVries C. (2005). *The official Lamaze guide: Giving birth with confidence*. New York: Meadowbrook.
2. Childbirth Connection. (2006). *What every pregnant woman needs to know about cesarean section*. New York, NY: Childbirth Connection. Available online at no charge at [www.childbirthconnection.org](http://www.childbirthconnection.org).
3. Nichols F. & Humenick S. (2000). *Childbirth education: Practice, research, and theory* (second edition). Philadelphia, PA: W.B. Saunders.
4. Amis D. & Green J. (2007 or current). *Prepared childbirth – The educator's guide*. Plano, TX: The Family Way Publications.
5. Renner P. (2005). *The art of teaching adults*. Vancouver: Training Associates. (For quick delivery, order online at [www.peter-renner.com](http://www.peter-renner.com).)
6. Simkin P. & Ancheta R. (2005). *The labor progress handbook* (second edition). Malden, MA: Blackwell Science.
7. Klaus M. & Klaus P. (1998). *Your amazing newborn*. Reading, MA: Perseus Books (or video available from [www.jjpi.com](http://www.jjpi.com).)
8. Block, J. (2007). *Pushed – The painful truth about childbirth and modern maternity care*. Cambridge, MA: Da Capo Press, a member of the Perseus Books Group.
9. A maternal-child nursing text or a midwifery text\*
10. A good breastfeeding book\*

\*Visit [www.lamaze.org](http://www.lamaze.org) for a complete list of recommended readings.

# EXAMINATION INFORMATION

## EXAMINATION ADMINISTRATION

The Lamaze Certification Examination is administered twice annually on established testing days only. Please note that exam dates vary each year. In 2009, the exam will be offered on Wednesday, April 22 and Friday, October 23. English and Spanish versions of the Lamaze exam are offered at computer-based testing facilities managed by LaserGrade® Computer Testing, Inc. LaserGrade offers more than 700 test sites in North America. Seat reservations are made on a first-come, first-served basis. Visit [www.lasergrade.com](http://www.lasergrade.com) or call LaserGrade at 800-211-2754 to find a test center. Actual test site locations may be within the city limits or in the surrounding metropolitan area. Please note that test sites may vary from one exam administration to another and are subject to change. **Please note that the Exam Voucher and photo identification will need to be presented upon arrival at the testing center.**

A written version of the exam will be made available for candidates sitting for the exam outside of North America or for candidates wishing to take the exam in Chinese, Korean, Romanian or Spanish. A written version of the exam also will be made available for candidates in Canada and Mexico, if computer testing is not available. Please see the “Special Needs Section” for additional information on the administration of written exams. Candidates taking the written exam should bring several sharpened #2 pencils and an eraser. Testing procedures will begin promptly at 12:00 p.m., 1:00 p.m. or 2:00 p.m. and will conclude after three hours. **Candidates may NOT bring cellular phones, beepers, calculators, books or paper into the testing center or the examination room.**

Exam applications requesting an administration in English must be postmarked by the noted registration deadlines: March 13, 2009, for the April exam and September 16, 2009, for the October exam. Exam applications requesting an administration in a

language other than English must be postmarked no later than February 20, 2009 for the April exam or August 26, 2009 for the October Exam. Please contact the Administrative Office at 800-368-4404 or 202-367-1128 for additional information.

## RESERVING YOUR EXAM SEAT

Once an exam application has been received and processed, and eligibility verified, an Exam Voucher will be mailed no less than two (2) weeks prior to the test date. The Exam Voucher plus photo identification must be presented in order to gain admission to the testing center. The Exam Authorization Letter will indicate the date of the exam and where to call to reserve a seat at the testing center. An exam seat cannot be reserved without the Exam Authorization Letter, which includes a unique registration number and an Exam Voucher from Lamaze International. The registration number must be provided to LaserGrade when scheduling your examination appointment.

“... [The exam] was  
well organized, clearly presented.”

An Exam Candidate

Seat reservations are done on a first-come, first-served basis, so reserving an exam seat upon receiving the Exam Authorization Letter is encouraged. This will maximize the chance for reserving a seat at the preferred testing location. **A candidate who does not receive an Exam Voucher or other correspondence by two weeks prior to the scheduled exam date should contact Lamaze International by telephone at 800-368-4404 or 202-367-1128.**

## SPECIAL NEEDS

Lamaze International's policy is that no individual shall be excluded from the opportunity to participate in the Lamaze Childbirth Educator Certification Exam on the basis of race, national origin, religion, sex, age or disability. Any requests for special testing accommodations pursuant to the Americans with Disabilities Act must be made in writing and submitted with the initial application and documentation forms no later than the application deadline. Lamaze International reserves the right to obtain a second professional opinion regarding the nature and severity of such requests and the appropriate accommodations. Upon receipt of such requests for special accommodations, Lamaze International will contact the applicant to make necessary arrangements.

The official language of the Lamaze International Childbirth Educator Certification Examination is English. The Certification Examination will be administered in the official language of the country in which it is given if a valid translation has been completed and approved.

An exam candidate may request to sit for the examination in an alternate language. Currently, the certification examination is available in English, Spanish, Romanian, Korean and Chinese (Simple Mandarin). The examination may not be offered in all languages during both administrations. Contact the Lamaze administrative office to confirm exam availability in languages other than English. Candidates requesting to sit for the exam in a language other than English must provide a written request no less than 12 weeks prior to the exam administration date. For requests of languages other than those for which a valid translation of the examination is available, please see the updated policy, Official Language of the Lamaze Certification Examination, available on the Lamaze Web site at [www.lamaze.org](http://www.lamaze.org).

Exam candidates outside the United States with no access to computer-based testing through LaserGrade may request to have an alternate exam site established. Candidates must contact the Administrative Office at least eight weeks prior to the exam date to submit an Alternate Test Site request and they are responsible for

identifying an appropriate test site and proctor. The administrative fee is \$100 per candidate for establishing an alternate test site for four or fewer exam candidates. There is no additional charge for five or more candidates taking the exam at a single alternate test site.

With exception of Canada, Lamaze International will set up one test site per country in which a qualified candidate applied to take the Lamaze Certified Childbirth Educator Certification Exam, free of charge. Due to the vast size of Canada, Lamaze will set up one alternate test site per Province free of charge. Other exam candidates may also take the exam at this site without paying an Alternate Exam Site Fee. Candidate requests for an exam site in their country will be taken on a first-come, first-served basis. Should a request for an additional test site in the same country, or Canadian Province, be received, that candidate will be required to pay the \$100 Alternate Test Site Fee for an additional site to be established unless there are five or more candidates qualified to take the exam at that site. Lamaze International does not limit the number of people who can sit for the exam at an alternate test site.

Candidates for whom English is a second language may request in writing the use of a non-medical translation dictionary during the exam and/or an additional hour to sit for the exam. The proctor will check the non-medical translation dictionary before and after the examination.

## SCHOLARSHIPS

The scholarship offerings for Lamaze members have been expanded to include an Exam Fee Scholarship Program. The scholarships are need-based and applications require substantiation of need. The Exam scholarship is intended to supplement the cost of the exam. Exam scholarships will cover the member exam fee for any candidate (up to \$215 maximum). Scholarships are awarded twice a year (spring and fall). Lamaze International will offer a total of ten (10) Exam Fee Scholarships, with five (5) awarded each dispersment period. For more details or to download a scholarship application, please visit the Lamaze Web site at [www.lamaze.org](http://www.lamaze.org).

## PAYMENT OF FEES

All fees are payable in U.S. dollars. All fees must be paid in full by the application deadline. Exam fees are based on membership status as well as data provided by the World Bank relative to the Gross National Income (GNI).

Applicants who do not meet the exam eligibility criteria will have their fee refunded, less a \$25 administrative fee. All other exam and re-exam fees are non-refundable.

<b>Group A*:</b>	Australia, Canada, Hong Kong, Israel, Japan, Republic of Korea, United Kingdom, United States	
<b>Group B*:</b>	Argentina, Chile, Mexico, Romania	
<b>Group C*:</b>	China, India, Philippines	
<b>Group D*:</b>	Haiti, Kenya, Nigeria	
	Fees in effect through June 30, 2009	Fees in effect beginning July 1, 2009
<b>Member Rates:</b>	Group A – \$215 Group B – \$200 Group C – \$190 Group D – \$180	Group A – \$250 Group B – \$235 Group C – \$225 Group D – \$215
<b>Non-Member Rates:</b>	Group A – \$345 Group B – \$315 Group C – \$295 Group D – \$280	Group A – \$380 Group B – \$350 Group C – \$330 Group D – \$315
*To determine pricing structure for additional countries, please visit the Lamaze Web site at <a href="http://www.lamaze.org">www.lamaze.org</a> .		

Incomplete or ineligible applications, or applications submitted without appropriate fees, will be returned and are subject to all policies, fees and deadlines.

**A \$25 incomplete application fee will be assessed for all incomplete applications.** This includes missing documentation, such as proof of education/licensure, teaching experience or continuing education.

If an exam candidate needs to cancel or transfer to the next exam administration she/he must submit a written request at least two (2) weeks prior to the exam date. Notification of exam cancellation or transfer after this date will forfeit the exam fee and the candidate must reapply. Candidates are permitted to defer or transfer their exam application and fee for two (2) exam administrations only.

Each exam deferment will incur a **\$25 deferment fee** that must be paid prior to the next exam administration. Exam cancellations and transfers are reviewed on a case-by-case basis.

For candidates requesting hand scoring of their answer sheet, an additional **\$50 administrative fee** will be incurred. This fee will be refunded if an error in scoring is discovered. Requests for hand scoring must be made within 90 days of the date of the initial exam score report. Additional copies of examinee score reports are available for \$15.

A **\$29 returned check fee** will be assessed on all returned checks. All Lamaze International Childbirth Educator Certification policies, fees and requirements are subject to change without notice.

“...this was an excellent in-depth exam. The questions covered a wide spectrum of issues that childbirth educators deal with.”

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