



## LLLI Criteria for Leader Accreditation

To be accredited as an LLL Leader, a woman will meet the following criteria:

- She has met the LLLI Prerequisites to Applying for Leadership.
- She has nursed her baby for about a year.
- She has demonstrated understanding of LLLI philosophy.
- She has conveyed her knowledge of basic breastfeeding management, outlined in Breastfeeding Management Skills Criteria.
- She has demonstrated leadership skills and attitudes, outlined in Leadership Skills Criteria.
- She has completed the LLL Leader accreditation process.
- She has signed the LLL Leader Statement of Commitment.

*La Leche League is a worldwide, educational, nonsectarian, non-discriminatory service organization.*

### Breastfeeding Management Skills Criteria

Upon completion of her application, the newly accredited Leader will be able to demonstrate knowledge of **basic** breastfeeding management and problem solving techniques, **basic** lactation physiology of the mother and baby, and of the **normal course of breastfeeding** as described in the most recent edition of *The Womanly Art of Breastfeeding*, which will be owned by the newly accredited Leader, **if it is available in her language.**

The newly accredited Leader will have completed the LLLI "Breastfeeding Resource Guide," if available in her language, or its counterpart. If the LLLI "Breastfeeding Resource Guide" or its LAD-approved counterpart is not available in her language, she will have identified appropriate resources in her language, as available and as she is able, in the following categories of breastfeeding management. The categories include but are not limited to:

- LLL resources available to Leaders
- Mother-to-mother helping techniques
- Structure and function of the breast
- Management of breastfeeding
- Positioning techniques
- Infant anatomy, sucking mechanisms and breastfeeding behavior
- Infant reflexes
- Potential problems (e.g., nipple or breast problems, slow or low weight gain, thrush, allergies)
- Role of maternal and infant nutrition
- Solid foods
- Weaning

- Premature infants
- Jaundice
- Hand expression and pumping
- Working and breastfeeding

The "Breastfeeding Resource Guide," if available in an Applicant's language, or its LAD-approved counterpart will be completed by the Leader Applicant as part of her application in the way that the Applicant, Leader and LAD representative determine is best suited to her individual situation (e.g., completed alone by the Applicant using resources available to her, completed at an Applicant workshop, or completed in parts in collaboration with another Leader or LAD representative).

A newly accredited Leader will be able to demonstrate knowledge of how to use LLL information and resources, if available and as she is able. Ownership of the *Breastfeeding Answer Book* is strongly recommended, if available in her language. Other recommended (but not required) resources where available include, but are not limited to: LLL Professional Liaison Programs, *Leader's Handbook*, *Leaven* (or another LLL Leader publication in her language), *New Beginnings* (or another LLL member publication), the LLLI Web Site (including links from the LLLI Web Site), breastfeeding resources available to her on the Internet, and other resources in her language.

### **Leadership Skills Criteria**

Upon completion of her application, a Leader Applicant will have demonstrated awareness and understanding of the leadership skills necessary to assume the responsibilities of leadership. The Applicant, with the help of the contact Leader (where available), will have completed a checklist of topics to discuss in preparation for leadership, if one is available in her language.

Upon completion of her application, the Leader Applicant will have demonstrated that she:

- Understands the importance of acceptance and respect for individual choices regarding breastfeeding and parenting.
- Can communicate effectively in providing mother to mother help.
- Is familiar with LLL resources and can gather, organize and retrieve pertinent information.
- Understands and agrees to work within LLL guidelines for consulting, documenting and reporting.
- Understands and agrees to work within LLLI policies as presented in the LLLI Bylaws, Policies and Standing Rules Notebook, the *Leader's Handbook* and other LLLI publications.

These skills and attitudes are covered in the *Leader's Handbook* and are learned through reading, personal experience, attendance at Series meetings, LLL conferences and workshops, and discussion with sponsoring Leader(s) and LAD representative(s). These skills and attitudes are demonstrated in the Personal History, during Series meetings and during completion of the [*Preview of Mothers' Questions/Problems and Group Dynamics/Management*].