

NETWORKING OPPORTUNITIES:

NCLCA provides networking opportunities both at the perinatal regional, state, and national levels.

Perinatal Regional Networking

- Once a year, NCBC & NCLCA will schedule a meeting in each of the six state perinatal regions. At the meeting, NCBC will provide updates on what is happening in each of the statewide committees and projects, and the State Breastfeeding Coordinator will provide updates on programs run by the Division of Public Health. The committees run projects that can be adopted by anyone and in any perinatal region. There are always opportunities to get involved with other members working in your area of interest by volunteering with any of NCBCs committees.
- NCBC keeps a list of all of the local perinatal coalitions. If you can't make it to the NCBC meeting when they come to your perinatal region, joining a local coalition is another way to network with your colleagues on a more local level.

Statewide Networking

NCLCA sponsors the North Carolina Lactation Consultant Association Breastfeeding Summit every year. The Summit is specifically structured to create opportunities for NC lactation support providers to participate as presenters as well as learners. Being a presenter means that your name recognition will increase and with it, your opportunities for networking and collaboration.

- The Science Fair is a session in which presenters can use either a scientific-style poster or a table top presentation to share a good idea with their colleagues. The idea could be something like a gender-neutral intake form, information on billing codes, a unique piece of equipment, group support, class, or clinical technique. Applying to present is low-key, and this venue offers a way to network on your favorite topic with like-minded professionals from all over the state.

- Short presentations, called “practice pearls” in 2017, offers a venue for a short, interactive session. We specifically encourage a case-study format for these presentations.

NATIONAL NETWORKING

- NCLCA is an affiliate organization of the United States Lactation Consultant Association. We encourage all of our members to join USLCA to access all of the resources and [networking opportunities](#) through our national professional organization. There is a phone call for affiliate chapters every quarter, and participation on this call provides an opportunity to hear what is happening with other chapters around the country.
- Every year NCBC sends members to the [United States Breastfeeding Committee Regional Conference](#). In previous years, NCLCA members have been selected to attend at a discount in order to present on local activities.