

MDH Breastfeeding Recognition Programs

There are four MDH recognition programs:

1. Maternity Centers

≥ 3 Ten STEP Awardees

➤1 3-Star Designee

2. Public Health Departments - 30

3. Workplace - 79

4. Childcare -7 Centers & 4 Homes

The Goal:

To make breastfeeding the norm across the state of Minnesota by supporting mothers and families in the community, at work, at maternity centers and childcare centers.



It's the Law

- Both federal and state law contain nursing mother provisions:
 - Nursing moms must be provided break time
 - A room must be provided that is not a bathroom stall
- Federal law
 - 2010 Fair Labor Standards Act Break Time for Nursing Mothers Provision
- State law
 - 2015 Minnesota Statute 181.939 Nursing Mothers adds provisions to the Federal law:
 - Free from intrusion
 - Electrical outlet provided
 - In close proximity to workplace

Purpose of the Program

- Increase the number of workplaces supporting breastfeeding mothers and families
- Recognize the importance of employer support
- Support nursing moms to continue nursing for up to a year and beyond



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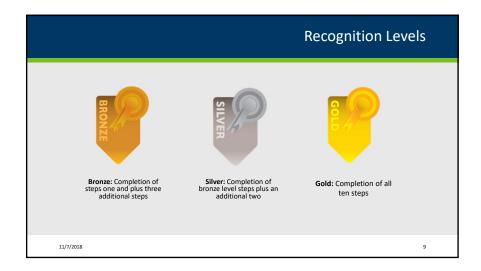


Why Breastfeeding Friendly Health Department Recognition

- Purpose: Establish the BFHD ten step process for local public health (LPH) in Minnesota which will focus on LPH capacity building and community engagement for breastfeeding promotion and support
- Need: Protection, Promotion and Support of Breastfeeding are Critical Public Health Needs (Centers for Disease Prevention and Control [CDC], 2010)
- The U.S. rates for both breastfeeding duration and exclusivity need to be increased (CDC, 2010)

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Purpose of the Program

- To recognize child care centers and Family Child Care Homes that have taken specific steps to create a welcoming and supportive breastfeeding environment with knowledgeable caregivers.
- To honor the time and dedication it takes to maintain breastfeeding friendly practices.

The American Academy of Pediatrics recommends infants be exclusively breastfed for at least six months

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