

Ten Steps to Infant Safe Sleep National Hospital Certification

These Ten Steps are provided as a general overview. Detailed information to support and facilitate the certification process is available with the Hospital Certification Tool Kit. Review this Tool Kit thoroughly prior to applying for certification.

1. Identify nurse leader(s) to coordinate the certification process
 - *Certification is an excellent project to progress up the clinical ladder, or to support a graduate degree*
2. Review the three levels of certification to determine your hospital or hospital system's desired level of certification—Bronze, Silver, or Gold
 - *Certification requirements are outlined on the hospital certification tool kit and on the main hospital certification web page (links)*
 - *An infant safe sleep policy is the foundation of the certification process at the minimum Bronze Level. As hospitals expand initiatives to include wearable blankets, crib audits, community education/outreach, and provide a safe sleep space to at risk families, higher level certifications at the Silver and Gold Levels are attained.*
3. Implement and enforce an Infant Safe Sleep Policy according to the most recent AAP recommendations.
 - *Policy Elements & Sample Policies available in our Hospital Certification Tool Kit*
 - *Policy Must Be Active for a Minimum of 3 Months*
4. Train healthcare staff to implement this policy
 - *Training should include both onboarding and annual competency*
 - *Ensure infant safe sleep as per the AAP is modeled on every unit caring for infants less than one year old.*
5. Educate all families/caregivers about Infant Safe Sleep
 - *Teaching must include all elements of the most recent AAP Infant Safe Sleep Recommendations*
 - *Teaching must also address how healthcare staff addresses non-compliance*
6. Review infant sleep images on the hospital website, collateral materials, and social media
 - *Ensure infant safe sleep is represented, noting where artistic images must be notated*
 - *Photo guidelines and approved photos for use are available in the Hospital Certification Tool Kit (link)*
7. Confirm any safe sleep space given to at-risk families meets certification requirements.
 - *Any crib/pack 'n play provided to families upon discharge must meet ASTM standards, be approved by JPMA, and be absent of CPSC recalls.*
 - *Any hospital or hospital system providing a "baby box" product is not eligible for certification.*
8. Click on the "Hospital Certification Application" button to review required submission elements
 - *Because the application cannot be saved and returned to at a later time, it is recommended to copy and paste the requirements into working Word document to be referenced at the time of final application submission.*
9. Email hospitalcertification@cribsforkids.org with remaining questions or to schedule a conference call.
 - *If your hospital is part of a system-wide certification, a conference call must be scheduled.*

- Applications for system-wide certification submitted without a conference call will not be reviewed.
10. Submit your application for hospital certification.
- Receipt of an automated response email confirms the application has been received.
 - Review of the completed application will be completed within two weeks. An initial response will be sent via email. The hospital's response to follow-up communication will drive the certification timeline.
 - Completed applications dormant for 60 days will be withdrawn from consideration.