

Applied Behavior Analysis

What is Applied Behavior Analysis?

- Applied Behavior Analysis (ABA) is the standard care for individuals with Autism Spectrum Disorder.
- ABA therapy incorporates evidence-based techniques and principles to create socially significant changes in behavior.
- ABA is an effective treatment provided in homes, schools, clinics and workplaces for individuals of all ages.



Effective ABA therapy for autism is not a "one-size-fits-all" approach and should never be viewed as a "canned" set of programs or drills. On the contrary, a skilled Board Certified Behavior Analyst (BCBA) customizes each intervention to the learner's skills, needs and interests

<https://www.autismspeaks.org>

What does ABA Teach?

ABA therapy programs are comprehensive and cover a variety of areas the child needs to be successful. Skills are broken down into small attainable steps. These steps are then arranged into a clear and logical hierarchy and taught one small step at a time. These areas include skills in language, social, behavioral, cognitive, academic, motor, adaptive living and play/leisure. The overall goal for a good ABA program should always be that the child is learning skills to benefit their individual life!

<https://www.prioritiesaba.com/resources-links/faq>

What is Autism?

Autism, or Autism Spectrum Disorder, refers to a range of conditions characterized by challenges with social skills, repetitive behaviors, speech and nonverbal communication as well as by unique strengths and differences.

<https://www.autismspeaks.org/what-autism>



Levels of Professionals in ABA

Board Certified Behavior Analyst Doctoral BCBA-D

- Individuals that completed doctoral training in behavior analysis or related subfield.
- Function in the same capacity as a BCBA.
- Requires active BCBA credential

Board Certified Behavior Analyst- BCBA

- Completion of master's degree from accredited college or university that aligns with Behavior Analyst Certification Board requirements
- Completion of defined period of supervised practical experience
- Received passing score on BCBA examination

Board Certified Assistant Behavior Analyst- BCaBA

- Undergraduate level certification in behavior analysis. BCaBAs cannot practice independently and must practice under the supervision of a BCBA or BCBA-D.
- Requires completion of verified coursework, defined period of supervised practical experience and pass BCaBA examination.

Registered Behavior Technician- RBT

- Paraprofessional who practices under the close supervision of a BCBA-D, BCBA or BCaBA
- Must be 18 years of age, possesses a minimum of a high school diploma, complete 40 hours of a BACB verified training and receive a passing score on the RBT certification exam.

<https://www.bacb.com/become-credentialed/>

Contact Us

New Mexico Governor's
Commission on Disability

Lisa McNiven, MPA
491 Old Santa Fe Trail
Santa Fe, NM 87501
505-435-9326
gcd@state.nm.us
www.gcd.state.nm.us

Center for Development and
Disability

2300 Menaul Blvd NE
Albuquerque, NM 87107
505-272-3000

AutismPrograms@salud.unm
.edu

www.cdd.unm.edu/autism

ABA Beyond Autism

The most common application of ABA is working with children with autism; however, this is not the only effective use of the science. Some subfields of that utilize behavior analytic principles include:

- Education
- Mental Health
- Organizational Behavior Management
- General Health and Wellness
- Animal Training
- Sports

<https://theautismhelper.com/aba-101-beyond-autism/>