

NJABA's Position Statement Regarding Behavior Analyst Certification by the BACB and Licensed Psychologists Trained in Behavior Analysis

- The New Jersey Association for Behavior Analysis supports the dissemination of accurate information about Applied Behavior Analysis and the certification process developed by the Behavior Analyst Certification Board. In order to protect consumers of ABA services, NJABA is supporting the effort to make certification in Behavior Analysis a legal requirement for all persons providing ABA services who are not licensed psychologists. NJABA respects the professional standards of licensed psychologists who have been trained in ABA and does not wish to minimize the qualifications of these professionals. By requiring certification in Behavior Analysis by professionals who are not licensed psychologists, we intend to protect the consumers from receiving inadequate or potentially harmful services by persons who do not meet a minimum certification standard. While certification in Behavior Analysis does *not* guarantee quality services, it does move in the direction of consumer protection by creating a minimum standard for competency and accountability. True competency can only be measured through a documented history of positive outcomes.

BCBAs and licensed Psychologists may BOTH provide:

- Functional Assessments
- Development of Behavior Intervention Plans
- Behavioral Observations
- Behavioral Recommendations
- Consultation and ABA support for specific students/classrooms

Board Certified Behavior analysts WILL:

- Be performing services in Applied Behavior Analysis only and will use the title BCBA

Board Certified Behavior analysts WILL NOT:

- Be performing psychological testing, projective testing, psychoanalysis, long-term counseling, or any other number of other psychological practices
- Refer to themselves as psychologists or behavioral psychologists

NJABA intends to work closely with the New Jersey Psychological Association and other similar professional groups in achieving this effort.