

BACB Newsletter



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New Journal Resources for BCBA and BCaBAs

Since 2014, the BACB has made two scholarly resources available to BCBA and BCaBA certificants: the ERIC searchable database and the ProQuest Educational Journals package. After their introduction, we began monitoring usage data and soliciting user feedback to help better meet the goal of connecting behavior analysts with relevant scholarship. We are excited to announce some upcoming changes to them that will be made available through the Resources tab of the [Certification Gateway](#). The ERIC database will continue to be available. However, the ProQuest Education Journals package will be replaced with free subscriptions to specific behavior analysis journals. The first journals to be made available are *Journal of Applied Behavior Analysis*, *Journal of the Experimental Analysis of Behavior*, and *Behavioral Interventions*, all of which are published by Wiley. These are all available now and we look forward to announcing a number of other journal additions next year.

Journal of Applied Behavior Analysis

Journal of the Experimental Analysis of Behavior

Behavioral Interventions

Increased RBT Exam Availability

We are pleased to announce that the RBT examination is now available at an additional 13 sites worldwide. Candidates can now schedule appointments through [Pearson VUE](#) for testing in the following new locations: Australia (Perth), Brazil (Brasilia, Belo Horizonte, Fortaleza, Porto Alegre), the Dominican Republic (Santo Domingo), Ireland (Dublin), Italy (Milan), Malaysia (Kuala Lumpur), the Netherlands (Utrecht), New Zealand (Wellington), the Philippines (Cebu City), and Saudi Arabia (Riyadh), and in the US states of Alaska (Fairbanks), Hawaii (Maui), and Indiana (South Bend).

Fees Waived for Non-US Degree Equivalency Evaluations

Due to its accreditation requirements, the BACB is required to ensure that all applicants for BCBA and BCaBA certification meet equivalent eligibility standards (i.e., degrees, coursework, experience). A standard mechanism for ensuring comparability in degrees around the world when educational systems and structures can vary so substantially is a formal degree-equivalency evaluation from services that specialize in this practice (e.g., World Education Services). Thus, the BACB has required applicants from non-US institutions to include in their applications a formal degree-equivalency evaluation. We are pleased to announce that the BACB has established a process with an independent degree-equivalency evaluation service and we now obtain and pay for these evaluations on behalf of the applicant directly, saving our applicants with degrees from non-US institutions the associated expense and response effort.

Reporting Important Information to the BACB: Health- and Safety-Related Incidents

Element 10.02(b) of the [Professional and Ethical Compliance Code for Behavior Analysts](#) (Compliance Code) reads as follows:

10.02 Timely Responding, Reporting, and Updating of Information Provided to the BACB.

Behavior analysts must comply with all BACB deadlines including, but not limited to, ensuring that the BACB is notified within thirty (30) days of the date of any of the following grounds for sanctioning status:

(b) Any public health- and safety-related fines or tickets where the behavior analyst is named on the ticket

The BACB has received numerous inquiries about code element 10.02(b). To be clear, the BACB is not interested in receiving information about parking tickets or most minor traffic violations. Instead, the reporting of fines and tickets is intended to function as a mechanism for identifying potentially dangerous behavior before it escalates or impacts client safety. We are providing the following guidance to help you determine whether an incident must be reported to the BACB under 10.02(b).

Public health- and safety-related fines or tickets **must be reported** to the BACB in the following circumstances:

- The incident or fine may indicate a physical or mental condition that could impact the competent delivery of services
- The incident or fine is evidence of another Compliance Code violation (e.g., a citation for negligently leaving a client unattended)
- The incident involved the operation of a motor vehicle and the fine was greater than \$750
- A client was present during the incident (regardless of the amount of the fine)
- You were required to report the incident to your professional liability insurance provider
- You were required to report the incident to a client's third-party payer
- You were required to report the incident to a governmental regulatory board

Public health- and safety-related fines or tickets **do not need to be reported** to the BACB in the following circumstances:

- The incident does not name the behavior analyst as the "violation" (e.g., parking tickets, camera-based speeding tickets)
- The incident occurred at the location where behavior-analytic services are delivered but did not involve a client (e.g., a citation for violation of wage and hour restrictions, unemployment compensation claims)
- The incident involved the operation of a motor vehicle and named the behavior analyst, but did not involve any of the following:
 - a fine over \$750
 - a client present during the incident or put at risk because of the incident
 - evidence of another Compliance Code violation

We hope you find this guidance useful. If you are ever unsure of whether an incident must be reported to the BACB, please email reporting@bacb.com for additional assistance.

Upcoming Changes to BCaBA Supervision Standards

A number of important changes to the supervision standards for BCaBAs were announced in the [December 2014](#) issue of the *BACB Newsletter*. The end of our 2-year notification period is near, with the new standards taking effect on **January 1, 2017**. As a reminder, the standards changes include increased supervision amounts and the supervisor being held accountable for the BCaBA's service activity, regardless of employment circumstances. We strongly encourage BCaBAs and their supervisors who have not yet made the necessary arrangements to do so quickly in order to meet the new standards.

Upcoming Changes to ACS Coordinator Requirements

As we announced in the [May 2013](#) and [May 2015](#) issues of the *BACB Newsletter*, the new requirements for individuals who coordinate Approved Course Sequences (ACS) will go into effect on **January 1, 2017**. These requirements are as follows:

- An ACS Coordinator must:
 - be employed full-time as faculty by the university;
 - hold BCBA or BCBA-D certification; AND
 - hold a relevant degree
 - BCBA course sequences: doctoral degree
 - Stand-alone BCaBA course sequences: master's degree or higher

A Summary of Recent and Upcoming Changes to BACB Standards

In an effort to assist certificants in remaining up-to-date with BACB standards, the table below summarizes recent and upcoming changes announced in past issues of the *BACB Newsletter*.

Effective Date	Area	Change	Newsletter
Recertification cycles that begin on or after January 1, 2015	Continuing Education	Changes to recertification cycle duration, # of required CEUs, ethics CE, and new CE categories	February 2013
January 1, 2016	BCBA Degree Requirement	Possession of a minimum of a master's degree from an accredited university that was (a) conferred in behavior analysis, education, or psychology, or (b) conferred in a degree program in which the candidate completed a BACB approved course sequence	February 2013
January 1, 2016	Ethics and Discipline	The Professional and Ethical Compliance Code for Behavior Analysts will be enforced. Revisions to the disciplinary system will take effect.	September 2014
January 1, 2016	BCBA Eligibility Requirements	Change to eligibility requirements for Options 2 (College Teaching) and 3 (Postdoctoral Experience). *See also page 2 of the October 2015 issue of the BACB Newsletter .	November 2014
February 1, 2016	BCBA-D Eligibility Requirements	Changes to eligibility requirements for the doctoral designation for BCBA's	January 2016
January 1, 2017	Approved Course Sequence Coordinator Requirements	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Be employed full-time as faculty by the university; • Hold BCBA/BCBA-D certification; AND • Hold a relevant degree <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - BCBA course sequences: doctoral degree - Stand-alone BCaBA course sequences: master's degree or higher * Click here for additional information about how this change will be implemented.	May 2013
January 1, 2017	BCaBA Supervision	Changes to the following policy requirements: Supervisor Responsibilities and Qualifications, Supervision Amount and Structure, Group Supervision, and Documentation of Supervision	December 2014