

Oklahoma Licensed Behavior Analyst Board

Department of Human Services
Developmental Disabilities Services Division
P.O. Box 25352
Oklahoma City, OK 73125

Oklahoma Licensed Behavior Analyst Board (OLBAB)

Board Meeting (TEAMS)

January 19, 2023

10:00-12:00

Agenda

Current Members:

Dr. Annie Baghdayan, Chair
Matthew Williams, Chair Elect
Dr. Bonnie J. McBride, Vice Chair
Dr. Erika Olinger, Member
Dr. Gary Duhon, Member
Beth Price, Member
Betsy Chen, Member
Tanesha Hooks, OHCA Representative
Matt Aingell, representing DDS
Rene Stewart, DDS Administrative Assistant DDS

1. Welcome and Call to Order

- a. Introductions
- b. Approval of the agenda and the minutes

2. Updates/Credentialing

- a. Updated information of Licensed Behavior Analyst (Names & Location)

3. Updates from Behavior Analyst Regulatory Authority Information Exchange (BACB):

“As of January 1, 2022, the Ethics Code for Behavior Analysts became effective, and the Professional and Ethical Compliance Code for Behavior Analysts was retired. The current Ethics Code for Behavior Analysts and the Code Enforcement Procedures are available under the Ethics Codes section of the BACB website.

We thought it might be helpful to your regulatory boards and agencies to know that all of the different iterations of the BACB’s ethical requirements are available on the website. If you have questions about prior standards, please see the following info-graphic at the bottom of the Ethics Resources webpage”.

4. Committee Updates and plan

- DDS Policy Updates were emailed to Board members

5. Updates from Matt Aingell/Rene Stewart

- Thentia Software
- OLBAB website
- Electronic copy of the certification

6. Public Comments and Questions

7. 2023 Upcoming Board Meeting Dates

- May 18, 2023, at 10:00; Sept. 21, 2023 at 10:00; Nov. 16, 2023 at 10:00.
- Need to set the 2 executive meetings (March 16 and July 23)

8. Updates from board members

- Board Members
- Annie
 - Complaints
 - attendance and email
 - planning an event, licensing and CEUs
 - Choose a date for Board members' retreat
- OLBAB Applicants/Nominations

9. Suggestions for future agenda items

10. Adjournment and the dates for our next Meetings:

- March 16, 2023 – Executive

Scope of Practice

Greetings Regulators,

We wanted to bring to your attention a concerning development regarding efforts to narrow the scope of practice for behavior analysts. Applied behavior analysis (ABA) often involve the assessment and teaching of language; this is particularly important and common in early intervention services. Despite the well-established scope of practice of ABA, there appears to be a concerted effort by the American Speech-Language-Hearing Association (ASHA) to restrict the behavior analyst's scope of practice by excluding any ABA programming that addresses speech-language pathology and audiology.

We first encountered this attempted restriction of the defined ABA scope of practice in the New Jersey legislative process. In New Jersey, the proponents and sponsor of a behavior analyst licensing bill were able to thwart off the attempt to narrow the scope of ABA services. Since then, similar attempts have been appeared in a few legislative arenas (e.g., Georgia, Illinois). Most recently, the licensure [legislation](#) enacted in Illinois included a last-minute amendment that reads:

(e) No licensed behavior analyst or licensed assistant behavior analyst shall engage in the practice of speech-language pathology or the practice of audiology, as defined in the Illinois Speech-Language Pathology and Audiology Practice Act, unless licensed to do so under that Act. (Source: P.A. 102-953, eff. 5-27-22.)

The proponents of the Illinois bill have sought clarification that the bill will not restrict any practices previously customary to ABA prior to enactment of the legislation. Only time will tell if the SL&P Boards begin sending cease-and-desist orders to licensed behavior analysts.

Providing an exemption for members of other professions in a behavior analyst licensure law is one thing; however, excluding the work of other professions from the ABA scope-of-practice section of a bill could have serious ramifications. [Here](#) is an example from the Georgia legislation of how such an attempt might appear. As some of you begin to face amendments or sunset efforts regarding your behavior analyst licensing law(s), please do not hesitate to reach out to the BACB should you desire clarity in the scope of practice of a behavior analyst. We are here to help.

Regards,

Regulatory Affairs

Behavior Analyst Certification Board