

Connecticut Association for Behavior Analysis
Member Survey Results
March 8, 2013

1. 41 respondents
 - 12.8% new, 87.8% returning
 - Age range 23 – 67 yr.; mean 40.8 yr.; median 35 yr.
 - 26.8% male, 73.2% female
 - 4.9% bachelors; 70.7% graduate; 19.5% doctoral; 4.9% post-doctoral
 - 33 live in CT; 4 MA; 2 NY
 - 92.7% work in CT; 7.3% NY; 17.1% MA; 1 person RI

2. Primary Area of Work:
 - 80.5% ABA
 - 34.1% Special Education
 - 31.7% Behavior Analysis
 - 29.3 % Education
 - 9.8% School Psychology
 - 7.3% Organizational Behavior Management
 - 4.9% Clinical Psychology
 - 4.9% Psychology
 - 4.9% Speech and Language Psychology
 - 2.4% Behavioral Psychology
 - 2.4% Public Policy & Administration
 - 1 person Program Consultation

3. Primary work activity:
 - 25% clinical/therapeutic services
 - 25% consulting
 - 25% teaching
 - 12.5% training/continuing education
 - 10% administrative/management
 - 2.5% staff/parent training

4. How would you like CT ABA to communicate w/ you?
 - 97.6% email
 - 24.4% website
 - 4.9% postal mail

5. What are your reasons for becoming a member?
 - 90% support CT ABA
 - 75% conference/workshop

- 47.5% reduced conference fees
- 45% list CT ABA as professional activity on resume/vita
- 35% legislative action
- 32.5% eligibility to join committees
- 22.5% information (please specify)
 - info on latest research; consort w/ community of like-minded professionals
- 20% eligibility to vote for executive council
- 12.5% eligibility for executive council nomination
- 2.5% job/school requires to join
- 12.5% jobs

6. Are you pleased with the benefits that CT ABA offers?

- 43.9% yes
- 51.2% unsure of benefits
- 4.9% no/not completely

7. If no, do the benefits have an effect on whether you'll renew membership?

- 1 no
- 1 no response

8. What other benefits would you take advantage of if offered?

- 81.1% reduced CE fees
- 67.6% workshop with reduced fees
- 59.5% access to statewide job postings
- 32.4% ability to post resume on website
- 10.8% committees targeting issues other than currently offered
- other: open meetings (1) have more than once/week (1), get parents accurate info about ABAI (1)

9. Other areas would like to see more action from CT ABA:

- 75% conferences
- 72.5% workshops
- 57.5% taking a stand on issues that affect the populations we work with
- 55% taking a stand on bills to support BCBAs and BCaBAs in CT
- 50% increasing awareness of Behavior Analysis in CT through:
 - 62.5% reaching out to other professions
 - 30% presenting to undergrad and grad programs
 - 5% other:
 - presenting to public school staff, especially administration
 - develop a partnership w/ parents and when appropriate consumers of ABA
 - presenting to parents

- 47.5% networking opportunities
- 47.5% pursuing state-accepted standards for BCBA's and BCaBA's
- 37.5% more opportunities for professional growth
- 30% legislative action
- 5% other

10. What committees would you be interested in joining:

- 50% conference
- 46.4% continuing education
- 28.6% legislative action
- 25% membership (individual)
- 17.9% technology
- 17.9% newsletter
- 10.7% membership (organizational)
- 10.7% non-profit
- 3.6% publicity & advertising

11. You would be more likely to join a committee if:

- 65.6% had more information
- 31.3% meetings were held at a more convenient location
- 3.1% meetings were held on a different day/time

12. Do you believe behavior analysts should be licensed?

- 48.7% yes
- 17.9% no
- 33.3% need more information
- 14 respondents provided comments about how they would like CT ABA to be involved in the issue of licensure
- 3 respondents agreed to be contacted regarding their response to questions about licensure

13. How would you like CT ABA to be involved in the issue of licensure?

Protect the name of ABA to ensure qualifications are standard. It is concerning that schools employ "behavior specialists" that are not qualified for those positions.

Member Responses:

Currently on the committee looking into licensure. For some reason, there has been no activity since our beginning efforts to gather information.

I checked "need more information" above only because the answers "yes" or "no" were not appropriate. I think that at the right time, licensure for behavior analysts is a great idea. However, I am very wary of what pursuing licensure could mean if

things do not go our way. I'm not sure that the current political environment is right for pursuing licensure at this point in time.

A comprehensive study of current national standards and a study of the CT standards for like disciplines. Participation in legislative policy discussions.

First, I think a document should be generated objectively listing the pros and cons of licensure. Secondly, I think there should be multiple opportunities for BCBAs/BCaBAs to meet throughout the state and discuss these pros and cons. Finally, I think the membership of CT ABA should have a vote to determine if licensure is something the majority would like to pursue.

I think that similar to MA, Connecticut should pursue licensure by going to the State Government and asking for a bill to be passed.

Oppose it. Already board certified--licensure just another \$\$ trap

I would like CT ABA to support licensure of behavior analysts if it ensures that only those individuals qualified to provide behavioral services (i.e., experienced BCBAs) provide behavior analytic services.

Mainstream guidelines allowing Behavior Analyst services to become the acceptable standard in treating individuals with autism and other related disabilities.

Please develop the essential elements that a licensure would need to include for CTABA to support.

get it grandfathered in as same as board verification but not under pursue of psychology

Work to get the state to accept the BACB certification to be eligible for the state license.

I would like support to have current bcbas in ct to be eligible for licensure. I wouldn't like them to exclude people who are currently working in ct as a bcbas

Unsure

14. Please take the opportunity to comment here and expand on the questions above. What issues are you primarily concerned with as a behavior analyst in Connecticut? What do you feel should be priorities for CT ABA? How would you like us to support you and the field?

Member Responses:

I was excited to join and the very discouraged when the meeting became "closed" with only one open meeting a month or quarter. I had a previous commitment on the open nights and lost all contact with the organization.

The negative views toward applied behavior analysis by the University of Connecticut and the Department of Education.

My biggest concern is the number of minimally trained BCBA's in the state of CT who are practicing behavior analysis, and in some cases training others, without the necessary experience to be good at what they do, even if they are well-intentioned. I think CT ABA needs to support moves by the BACB to increase requirements for BCBA's before they become supervisors.

Feedback received from HRC/PRC review of behavior support plans sometime are confusing. We are being asked to be less behavior Analytic in our technologies.

the filed will die due to budget concerns determining how much and how well ABA is implemented unless informed parents demand intensive high quality services. relying on govern,ent and educational funding to treat ,epically conditions is just giving a free ride to insurance companies and a huge disservice to the kids who do not receive what they need, especially in autism. in the end we all pay the price, but the kids pay the most.

I would like to see BCBA's working more with school districts then against them in bringing them to due process. Schools have a lot to learn, and are making changes, but we can't throw them to the wolves, we need to help and support them. We are in this together for the students.

More opportunity to start b23 early intervention aba programs without having to bid on a contract.