Bureau of Autism Services

CONTENT AREAS FOR BEHAVIOR SPECIALIST LICENSURE TRAININGS & COURSEWORK

Please note: The following descriptions are not all-inclusive and contain only a few examples of how each content area is defined by the Bureau of Autism Services for the purpose of determining whether it will approve a training. This document can also be used by universities/colleges to develop or evaluate their own coursework.

ETHICS A training to fulfill "Ethics" should emphasize moral values, practices, and decisions related to the professional field of behavior analysis (e.g., confidentiality, standards to ensure dignity, health, and safety). (3 hours required)

AUTISM-SPECIFIC A training to fulfill "Autism-Specific" should focus on information specific to children with autism, including diagnosis and treatment related to communication, social, and behavioral difficulties. (18 hours required)

ASSESSMENTS A training to fulfill "Assessments" should focus on specific methods to assess and treat problematic behaviors, including the use of a Functional Behavior Assessment (FBA) and other assessment tools (e.g., MAS, FAI, standardized assessments, job assessments) to identify needs of children with autism. (16 hours required)

INSTRUCTIONAL STRATEGIES AND BEST PRACTICES A training to fulfill "Instructional Strategies and Best Practices" should highlight strategies to effectively teach skills that promote self-determination and independence, including strategies that are data-based and collaborative (e.g., systematic planning, goals and objectives, fading and prompting systems, task analyses, generalization). (16 hours required)

CRISIS INTERVENTION A training to fulfill "Crisis Intervention" should focus on strategies to ensure health and safety of children with autism that are beyond the strategies detailed in the child's Behavior Support Plan. (8 hours required)

CO-MORBIDITY AND MEDICATION A training to fulfill "Co-morbidity and Medication" should focus on the prevalence of and treatment of autism and other co-existing conditions (e.g., mental health, substance abuse). Trainings related to medication management or impact of medication for children with autism would also fulfill this content area requirement. (8 hours required)

FAMILY COLLABORATION A training to fulfill "Family Collaboration" should focus on collaborating and teaming with families to address dynamics that may impact supports and services for children with autism (e.g., parental stress, siblings, resistance to service delivery). (5 hours required)

SPECIFIC SKILL DEFICITS A training to fulfill "Specific Skill Deficits" should focus on teaching specific skills to children with autism to increase independence, replace problem behaviors, and quality of life (e.g., social skills, sexuality, communication, daily living, employment-related skills). (16 hours required)