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### A New Inactive Policy for Certificants

The BACB is now offering an inactive status option for certificants who wish to voluntarily suspend their credential for extended periods to address personal matters.

October, 2013

#### Inactive Status (voluntary)

**BACB Newsletter** 

Certificants who are current with their continuing education requirements (prorated to the year) may elect voluntary-inactive status at any time. Voluntarily inactive certificants will pay a one-time, inactive request fee of \$50 and complete annual renewal applications during the inactive period. Voluntarily inactive certificants will not be charged an annual renewal fee during the inactive period. Voluntary-inactive status will also remove the requirement for supervision for BCaBAs during the period of inactivity. A certificant may only stay on voluntary-inactive status for a maximum of 4 years at a time. Certificants may not again apply for voluntary-inactive status until at least one full certification cycle (2 years) has been completed. Reactivation requires submission of a reactivation application and fee (equivalent to the certificant's annual renewal fee); the reactivation fee is not required for voluntary-inactive periods of less than 1 year. For voluntary-inactive periods of more than 2 years, the certificant must provide proof of 8 CEUs in the 12-month period prior to reactivation. When the individual becomes active again, the certification cycle will be reset to the date of reactivation. During any period of voluntary-inactive status, failure to complete the annual renewal (with a 90-day grace period) will result in the status being changed to "involuntary inactive" (see below).

An individual undergoing disciplinary review will not be permitted to elect voluntary-inactive status unless approved, in advance, by the BACB's CEO.

Inactive Period	Reactivation Requirements
Less than 1 year	No Fee
1-2 years	Fee
2-4 years	Fee + 8 CEUs

#### Inactive Status (involuntary)

Effective November 1, 2014, this process will replace the *Reentry option* currently available to certificants. Involuntary-inactive certificants are individuals who have failed to renew (including active and voluntary-inactive certificants) or recertify. Anyone in this category will have 90 days in which to reactivate their certification following the procedures described below. After the 90-day grace period, involuntary-inactive certificants will lose their certification and must reapply under then-existing standards.



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#### Failure to Transition from Voluntary Inactive to Active Status

- Submission of a reactivation application
- · Payment of reactivation and late fees
- For voluntary-inactive periods of more than 2 years, the certificant must provide proof of 8 CEUs in the 12-month period prior to reactivation

#### Failure to Renew

- · Fulfillment of all renewal requirements
- · Payment of renewal and late fees

#### Failure to Recertify

- Fulfillment of all recertification requirements
- · Payment of recertification and late fees

#### Restrictions

Individuals who have inactive status will not be listed in the Certificant Registry and will not be verified as having BACB certification by our staff. These individuals may refer to their credential as follows:

BCBA-D (Inactive) - BCBA (Inactive) - BCaBA (Inactive)

An inactive certificant is strictly prohibited from practicing or billing as a BCBA, BCBA-D or BCaBA.

### BACB Awards Grant to B.F. Skinner Foundation

We are pleased to announce that the BACB has awarded the <u>B.F. Skinner Foundation</u> a grant to fund the conversion of the following classics by B.F. Skinner into electronic format (e.g., Kindle). *Science and Human Behavior* (1953) is an introduction to radical behaviorism and remains as relevant today as when it was first published. *Verbal Behavior* (1957) was Skinner's account of human language from a behavior-analytic perspective and it has since become highly influential to the behavioral treatment of autism. *Contingencies of Reinforcement: A Theoretical Analysis* (1969) is a collection of Skinner's previously published papers and represents a thorough presentation of the fundamentals of behavior analysis. We hope that the electronic conversion of these important works will make them more easily available to our certificants.





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# Answers to Frequently Asked Questions about Changes to the BACB's Experience/Supervision Policy

Q: What are the new requirements?

**A:** As described in the <u>September 2012 BACB Newsletter</u>, effective January 1, 2015, anyone who supervises (a) an individual pursuing a BACB credential or (b) the ongoing practice of a BCaBA must meet the following requirements:

- Hold a BCBA or BCBA-D credential (in good standing)
- Complete an 8-hour training based on the BACB Supervisor Training Curriculum Outline
- Complete an online, competency-based training module on the BACB's Experience/ Supervision standards (this will soon be available at BACB.com)

In addition, supervisors will need to earn 3 CEUs related to supervision in each certification cycle beginning with the first cycle that begins on or after January 1, 2015

Q: When may I take the supervisor training?

**A:** Although you may take it any time, it will only count toward the new requirements if completed after you received your BCBA or BCBA-D credential.

Q: May I earn CEUs by completing the supervisor training?

A: Yes.

Q: Is there a test on how to supervise?

**A:** No. As mentioned above, there are two required trainings. Each of these will include demonstrations of competency within the training, but there is no separate test administered by the BACB.

Q: How do I indicate that I have completed the new requirements?

**A:** For now, maintain proof that you have completed supervisor training. In 2014, the Certificant Gateway will be modified to permit you to upload a PDF file of your training certificate or receipt. In addition, the Certificant Gateway will be updated to reflect your completion of the upcoming training module on the BACB's standards at www.BACB.com. The Certificant Registry will then indicate your authorization to supervise. The supervision CEU requirement will be added to this process after it goes into effect.

Q: May I satisfy the supervision CEU requirement by supervising someone's practice?

**A:** No. Similar to ethics CEUs, supervision CEUs may come from any acceptable continuing education category. However, supervision CEUs may not be earned by engaging in supervision activities, which are acceptable toward the Type 3 continuing education category. If supervision CEUs are met with Type 3 CEUs, they must come from acceptable activities other than supervising or being supervised (e.g., seminars, presentations, or conference events not offered by ACE providers or not offered for Type 2 continuing education).



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Q: May I satisfy both the ethics and supervision CEU requirements from the same event?

**A:** No. A given CEU can be counted toward either the ethics requirement or the supervision requirement, but may not be double-counted toward both. For Type 2 continuing education events, the ACE provider should identify whether their events cover ethics or supervision content and for how many CEUs.

Q: When will supervisees be expected to comply with the new limit of no more than 50% of experience hours in direct implementation of behavioral programs?

**A:** Any experience obtained after the publication of the <u>September 2012 BACB Newsletter</u> should comply with this requirement. As of January 1, 2014 we will monitor (and may audit) applications to ensure compliance with this requirement.

Q: If no more than half of the experience hours can be in direct implementation of behavioral programs, what should supervisees be doing for the remainder of their experience?

A: Most of the other appropriate activities identified in the standards, including:

- Designing and systematically monitoring skill-acquisition and behavior-reduction programs;
- Overseeing the implementation of behavior-analytic programs by others;
- Training, designing behavioral systems, and performance management;
- Other activities normally performed by a behavior analyst that are directly related to behavior analysis such as attending planning meetings regarding the behavior analytic program, researching the literature related to the program, and talking to individuals about the program.

Q: Does the 50% maximum apply to each supervisory period?

**A:** No, this requirement applies to the experience as a whole. If you are currently accruing experience, you should take steps to ensure that you will have met this requirement by the time your experience is completed.

Q: Does this requirement apply only to individuals pursuing BCBA certification?

**A:** No, this requirement applies to all experience used to qualify for both the BCBA and BCaBA credentials.

Q: How am I supposed to document compliance with this requirement? What if I haven't been keeping track of direct implementation hours vs. other experience activities?

**A:** We will update the experience documents in the near future to include instructions for documentation this information. When we update the document, we will announce it at <a href="https://www.BACB.com">www.BACB.com</a> and via <a href="facebook">Facebook</a> and <a href="facebook">Twitter</a>. For prior experience, we expect that most employment or supervisory relationships would include documentation and opportunities allowing for, at the very least, a reasonable estimate of the proportion of direct implementation involved in the supervisee's activities (e.g., description of supervisee's roles and responsibilities contained in a supervision contract and/or employment contract, timesheets, billing logs, job/position description, supervisor's direct observation conducted throughout the experience). Ultimately, we will rely on the supervisor's verification that this aspect of the experience requirements was met.

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### **Behavior Analysis Leadership Meeting**

On May 28, 2013, the BACB's President, Dr. Jane Howard, and Chief Executive Officer, Dr. Jim Carr, attended the fourth semiannual meeting of the leadership of the major behavior analysis organizations: ABAI, APBA, BACB. This was the first such meeting attended by all presidents and executive directors (ABAI - Drs. Maria Malott, Linda Hayes, Mike Perone, and Kurt Salzinger; APBA - Drs. Gina Green, Bill Ahearn, and Mary Riordan). Like the earlier meetings, one of the main functions was to brief each other on recent organizational developments. The leadership also discussed opportunities for collaboration and plans for a fifth meeting in late 2013.

### Three U.S. States Enact Behavior Analyst Licensure/Certification Laws

Ohio, Louisiana, and Oregon recently enacted legislation to regulate the practice of behavior analysis at the state level. The <u>Ohio State Board of Psychology</u> will now oversee <u>Certified Ohio Behavior Analysts</u>. This state certification program includes the BCBA credential as its primary requirement. BCaBAs should be exempt from the law under the following provision: "An individual practicing applied behavior analysis who is supervised by a certified Ohio behavior analyst and acting under the authority and direction of that certified Ohio behavior analyst, if the certified Ohio behavior analyst signs an attestation stating that the certified Ohio behavior analyst is responsible for the care provided by the individual."

The <u>Louisiana Behavior Analyst Board</u> will now oversee <u>Licensed Behavior Analysts</u> and <u>State Certified Assistant Behavior Analysts</u>. BCBA and BCaBA certification, respectively, should satisfy the primary application requirements for these new credentials.

The Oregon Behavior Analysis Regulatory Board will now oversee *Licensed Behavior Analysts* and *Licensed Assistant Behavior Analysts*. These state licensure programs include the BCBA and BCaBA credentials, respectively, as their primary requirements.

We recommend that certificants in these three states contact their professional associations for information about pursuing these new state credentials.

Ohio Association for Behavior Analysis

Oregon Association for Behavior Analysis

Louisiana Behavior Analysis Association

## **New Application Requirement**

Effective January 1, 2015, the BACB will require all applicants for examination to send their supporting documentation in a *single*, *complete submission*. In other words, all documentation of degree, coursework, experience, college teaching, BCBA reviews, CVs, etc. for a particular applicant must arrive at the BACB offices in a single package.

*Incomplete packages will be returned to the applicant* with information about which documentation is missing. Returned incomplete submissions will incur a \$50 fee for the cost of shipping and processing.

Individual documents that are not included in a complete submission will no longer be accepted and may be destroyed upon receipt. This includes transcripts sent directly from a university to the BACB.

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Please also note that all Experience Verification Forms submitted to the BACB must now use the updated version of the form (September 2012 or later) which requires differentiation of experience hours vs. supervision hours. Older versions will not be accepted and may cause the exam application package to be returned as incomplete.

### **New Deadline for On-Time Applications**

Effective immediately, the last day for on-time examination applications (before incurring a late fee) is the last day of the month that precedes the examination window. The next examination window is February 2014. Thus, the last day for on-time applications will be January 31, 2014. A reminder ... the later we receive an approvable application during an examination window, the more difficult it will be for the applicant to schedule an examination appointment with Pearson VUE before the window closes.

### Are You "BCBA Eligible," a "BCBA Candidate," or "BCaBA Pending?"

We hope not! These and similar designations are not permitted by the BACB. Individuals who have not been certified (regardless of whether they have applied or been deemed eligible) are not permitted to represent affiliation with the BACB or the BACB's credentials in any manner. Doing so could be grounds for denial, suspension, or revocation of examination eligibility. It should go without saying that if you are prohibited from representing eligibility, you are most certainly prohibited from representing BCBA or BCaBA status prior to certification by the BACB. Simply stated, avoid using any BACB credential or trademark prior to earning certification. Along the same lines, this is an opportunity to remind those of you who graduated from "certificate" programs in applied behavior analysis that such certificates of completion DO NOT constitute ABA "certification."

These restrictions extend to businesses who wish to use the BACB's titles for commercial purposes. Over the years, we have had to stop development efforts involving some fairly creative mugs, tee shirts, pins, and even cookies bearing BACB credentials.

The prohibitions described above might seem heavy-handed; this is because the BACB has an obligation to protect the meaning and value of the credentials we have issued. It isn't difficult to imagine how the value of our titles might be diminished if anyone could use them in any context they desired. Trademark protection mandates our actions. If we fail to enforce the trademark rights, those rights could be jeopardized.

It is always better to be safe than sorry. We encourage you to take the time to review #3 of the <u>Professional Disciplinary and Ethical Standards</u>. If you have any additional questions, we are just a phone call or email away.

### **New BACB Logos**

Earlier this year, the BACB introduced several new logos (top of page 7) for use by BACB Approved Continuing Education (ACE) providers and Approved Course Sequences (ACS).

The ACE logo may only be used by *current* BACB Approved Continuing Education providers. The ACS logo may only be used by *current* BACB Approved Course Sequences.

If you have any questions about these logos, please contact <u>info@bacb.com</u>. If you suspect someone is misusing any BACB logo, certification mark, or trademark, please contact <u>legal@bacb.com</u>.



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### Are You Prepared for the Transition to a 2-year Recertification Cycle?

BACB certificants currently have 3 years in which to meet continuing education requirements prior to recertification. There is no requirement for how CEUs should be distributed within this period; thus, some certificants wait until their third year to earn all of their CEUs. We recommend, however, that certificants start thinking about their CEU requirement as an annual one and aim to earn the proportional amount per year (i.e., 12 CEUs for BCBAs and 8 CEUs for BCaBAs). Such annual goals will make it a little easier to keep track of CEUs when the BACB soon transitions to a 2-year certification cycle (see <u>February 2013 BACB Newsletter</u>). In addition, annual CEU goals will assist certificants in states or provinces with licensure in keeping track of continuing education requirements both for their regulatory board and the BACB.

### Opting Out of the BACB's Mass Email Service

We would like to remind our certificants that they have the ability to opt out of receiving emails through our mass email transmission service. This feature is available in the Certificant Gateway under *Email Preferences*. The current email categories are as follows:

- · Academic Research Invitations or Surveys
- · Continuing Education Events
- Employment Opportunities
- Invitations to Join Provider Networks (insurance or other third-party payers)
- Legislative/Political Initiatives
- Market Research Surveys
- Publication Announcements
- · Requests for Supervision
- University Coursework Offerings

Each of these categories may be set to either YES or NO depending on a certificant's interest in the topic. We encourage all certificants to review their email preference settings in their Certificant Gateway to customize the types of email communications (if any) they wish to receive.

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#### We have moved!

The BACB's office has been relocated to the Denver area. Effective immediately, our new contact information is:

8051 Shaffer Parkway Litteton, CO 80127 Phone: (720) 438-4321 Fax: (720) 468-4145

### A Summary of Upcoming Changes to BACB Standards

The September 2012, February 2013, and May 2013 issues of the *BACB Newsletter* have described a number of impending changes to BACB standards. In an effort to assist certificants in keeping track of these many changes, we have provided the following table that includes the changes, their effective dates, and their original published source. We will publish this table or other reminders in future newsletters until the majority of the changes have been enacted.

Effective Date	Area	Change	Newsletter
September 30, 2013	Experience Supervision Contracts	Expanded content must be included	September 2012
January 1, 2014	Approved Experience Activities	No more than 50% of the accrued experience hours can be in the direct implementation of behavioral programs	September 2012
March 1, 2014	BCBA-D Requirements	A. Is actively certified as a BCBA; AND B. Has earned a doctoral degree from a graduate program accredited by the Association for Behavior Analysis International; OR C. Has earned a doctoral degree from an accredited university in which he or she conducted a behavior-analytic dissertation (including at least 1 experiment); AND passed at least 2 behavior analysis courses as part of the doctoral program of study; AND met all BCBA coursework requirements prior to receiving the doctoral degree	<u>February</u> 2013
January 1, 2015	Supervisor Requirements	Pass an 8-hr, post-certification, competency-based training on supervising pre-certification individuals	September 2012

Area

Supervisor

Requirements

Change

Pass an online, competency-based

standards at www.BACB.com

training module on BACB experience



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**Effective Date** 

January 1, 2015

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#### January 1, 2015 Supervisee Pass an online, competency-based September training module on BACB experience Requirements 2012 standards at www.BACB.com Distribution of January 1, 2014 The start-date and end-date of <u>September</u> Experience experience may not be more than five 2012 Contents years apart Recertification Continuing Changes to recertification cycle **February** cycles that Education duration, # of required CEUs, ethics CE, 2013 begin on or after and new CE categories January 1, 2015 Possession of a minimum of a master's January 1, 2016 **BCBA** Degree <u>February</u> Requirement degree from an accredited university 2013 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. • Be employed as full-time faculty by January 1, 2017 Approved May 2013

Course

Sequence

Coordinator Requirements

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the university

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