



Rationale for RBT Credential

The primary RBT maintenance requirement is to satisfactorily complete the 12-task direct observation RBT Competency Assessment (based on 20 Task List Elements).

The rationale for this requirement is that, since the RBT is a front-line worker who implements behavior analysis procedures, annual demonstration of satisfactory implementation of the 12-tasks in a precise and timely manner is of utmost importance to the ongoing success of a behavior plan.

The ability to correctly perform job tasks is the most important aspect of an RBT's effectiveness; more so even than his or her knowledge of the concepts underlying the procedures. Therefore, frequent (annual) reassessment of that skill set is an important aspect of consumer protection.

In light of the education and training of the BCBA and BCaBA to assess the RBT in behavior plan implementation and data collection, the behavior analyst performing the RBT Competency Assessment is best able to assess, in practice, the ongoing successful performance of core task-list skills is an appropriate way to ensure maintained competence. Although the RBT Competency Assessment is initially required as an eligibility requirement, it occurs in such close proximity to the written examination and after the RBT's education and training eligibility requirements, that it functionally serves as an additional initial skill assessment and recertification verification that the core-skills have not deteriorated. Other typical recertification activities, particularly continuing education events, are not generally designed or readily available for the high-school educated front-line practitioner.