

SPECIAL EDUCATION

APPLIED BEHAVIORAL ANALYSIS - CERTIFICATE

POST-MASTER'S*
MASTER OF EDUCATION

COLLEGE OF EDUCATION

WWW.SRU.EDU/SPED



ABOUT THE APPLIED BEHAVIOR ANALYSIS CERTIFICATE PROGRAM

Do you already have your graduate degree in the areas of education, psychology or human services but want to pursue a specialization in applied behavior analysis? If this applies to you, then completing the coursework to earn a certificate of completion within the existing graduate program in Special Education emphasizing a focus on Applied Behavior Analysis (ABA) will be the right fit for you. If you enjoy helping others, consider becoming a Board Certified Behavior Analyst (BCBA). BCBA's can support all persons with exceptionalities and have been instrumental in the support of persons having Autism Spectrum Disorders. According to the U.S. Bureau of Labor Statistics, behavior analyst jobs are growing rapidly and the overall employment rate is expected to grow much faster than the average for all professions combined between 2012 and 2022.

In education, behavior analysts support a variety of individuals including parents, guidance counselors, healthcare providers, and others to provide evidenced-based assessment and behavior-based interventions. The focus is on the learning environment and teacher behavior as the primary methods to proactively address behavioral challenges. Behavior analysts also contribute to classroom and school wide Positive Behavior Intervention and Supports (PBIS). Areas of practice also include: autism, community-based mental health, social work, and counseling.

ABA, a branch of psychology rooted in the application of science to the study of human behavior, is a specialized therapeutic approach that has been shown to be quite effective in reducing the impact of autism spectrum disorders as well as other mental health and developmental disabilities. The content of this particular program will focus upon the application of ABA in special education and pediatric clinical settings, supporting needs of learners having autism spectrum disorders, developmental disabilities, and emotional or behavioral disorders.

This course sequence has been specifically aligned with classroom and experiential requirements recommended by the international accrediting body for professionals providing ABA services, the Behavior Analyst Certification Board (BACB), to develop, design, implement, and evaluate behavior analytic techniques that produce meaningful change for learners. At a minimum, upon completion, students participating in these courses will have fulfilled coursework requirements to sit for examination to be a recognized Board Certified Behavior Analyst (BCBA).

Coursework within this certificate is derived from the Fourth Task List published by the BACB as well as the Board's Guidelines for Responsible Conduct. The BACB Standards are listed on the following website as well as information on the Board itself and the examination process at www.bacb.com.

**This certificate is for persons who already possess a graduate degree in education or related field and are seeking to complete the coursework requirements only to sit for the BCBA exam.*

ABA PROGRAM HIGHLIGHTS

SRU's Master of Education in Special Education with a concentration in Applied Behavior Analysis (ABA) offers:

- 100% online
- World class faculty considered to be the leaders in Special Education in Pennsylvania
- A program curriculum grounded in theory and research supported by a practical, hands-on approach
- Course sequence alignment with the Behavior Analyst Certification Board (BACB) that meets eligibility requirements to take the Board Certified Behavior Analyst Exam

TUITION

Information on current tuition can be found on the main Graduate Admissions website at www.sru.edu/graduate. Financial Aid brochures are available through the Financial Aid Office at www.sru.edu/FinAid or in the Office of Graduate Admissions.



SlipperyRock
University

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EXPERIENCE THE DIFFERENCE

www.sru.edu/graduate

CURRICULUM (18 CREDITS - FALL/SPRING ONLY)

The certificate will require 18 credits of coursework aimed at training practitioners in Applied Behavior Analysis (ABA) services with the dimensions of ABA and described by the BACB.

- SPED 660: Basic Behavior Principles*
- SPED 661/861: Techniques in Applied Behavior Analysis
- SPED 669/868: Applications in Applied Behavior Analysis
- SPED 663: Ethical Issues in the Science & Practice of Behavior Analysis
- SPED 664: Issues in the Behavioral Treatment of Autism

Research in Applied Behavior (3 credits, Fall/Spring only):
 SPED 665/865: Research in Applied Behavior Analysis

**Indicates first course to be taken if beginning in the Fall; all other courses taken in any order.*

The certificate will be offered completely online for a variety of students and practicing professionals including:

1. All certified teachers or undergraduates in the fields of behavior analysis or psychology currently working toward their master's degree.
2. Candidates who currently hold a master's degree from an accredited university in one of the following fields of study: behavior analysis, education, or psychology, wishing to complete coursework requirements in Applied Behavior Analysis in preparation for the Board Certified Behavior Analyst exam through the BACB. A Certificate of Completion will be offered upon completion of coursework for these students upon completion of coursework.
3. All certificate courses will be offered on a rotational basis, during the fall and spring semester only.

Unconditional admission may be offered to applicants who submit acceptable credentials as listed above, and who have earned an undergraduate GPA of 3.0 or higher (based on a 4.0 scale).

Applicants who do not meet all of the above criteria may be offered conditional admission upon recommendation of the graduate coordinator and approval by the Director of Graduate Admissions. Applicants should have their final official transcripts forwarded directly to the Office of Graduate Admissions.

ADMISSION REQUIREMENTS

All applicants must submit the following materials along with a completed online graduate application and a non-refundable application fee:

- Official undergraduate transcripts from the applicant's baccalaureate granting institution and any graduate transcripts (if applicable)
- Copy of teacher certification (optional)
- Resume
- Recommendation forms: one academic reference from a former or current college or university faculty member with knowledge of the applicant's academic abilities and one professional reference from a school administrator, teacher, or supervisor with knowledge of the applicant's professional attributes. Recommendations must be on the appropriate forms, which are available electronically at www.sru.edu/graduate, under "Forms"

CLEARANCES

Clearances are due no later than one (1) week prior to deadline of course registration for each program's practicum/field experience. No student will be permitted to register for the program's practicum and take part in practicum/field experiences without Clear clearances on file at SRU. Students are to send the following by the established due date:

- Clear Act 34 Criminal History Record NO record...NONE concerning prohibitive offenses. A meeting headed by the Dean of the College of Education is required if clearances show non-prohibitive offenses. Clearance must be less than one year old at the time of submission
- Clear Act 114 FBI Record Check NO record...NONE concerning prohibitive offenses. A meeting headed by the Dean of the College of Education is required if clearances show non-prohibitive offenses. Clearance must be less than one year old at the time of submission
- Clear Act 151 Child Abuse Background Check NO record...NONE concerning prohibitive offenses. A meeting headed by the Dean of the College of Education is required if clearances show non-prohibitive offenses. Clearance must be less than one year old at the time of submission
- Act 24 Arrest/Conviction Report and Certification NO record...NONE concerning prohibitive offenses. A meeting headed by the Dean of the College of Education is required if clearances show non-prohibitive offenses. Students must file an updated Act 24 with SRU if any additional arrests/convictions occur while enrolled at SRU

FOR QUESTIONS ABOUT ACADEMICS AND COURSE SCHEDULING:

Eric J. Bieniek, PhD, BCBA-D
 Graduate Coordinator
 208 McKay Education Building
 724.738.4106
eric.bieniek@sru.edu

The educational policies and procedures are continually being reviewed and changed in keeping with the mission of the university. Consequently, this document cannot be considered binding and is intended to be used as only an informational guide. Students are responsible for being informed of official policies and regulations for meeting all appropriate requirements.

FOR QUESTIONS ABOUT ADMISSIONS:

Office of Graduate Admissions
 104 North Hall, Welcome Center
 Slippery Rock, PA 16057
www.sru.edu/graduate
 724.738.2051 or 877.SRU.GRAD
graduate.admissions@sru.edu