

About the Association for Science and Autism Treatment (ASAT)

The PPP SIG recognizes that the vast array of "proposed treatments" for autism can be both overwhelming and confusing for consumers. Sadly, there is not a shared commitment to empirical validation, research, and data based decision making amongst providers. Using science-based treatment methods provides individuals with autism with the best opportunity for success based upon decades of published research.

Fortunately, one organization in particular, the Association for Science and Autism Treatment (ASAT), strives to be an important resource for individuals with autism, family members, professionals, and paraprofessionals, in fact, for anyone interested in reliable, science-based and accurate information about autism and its treatments. Founded in 1998, the mission of ASAT is to disseminate accurate, scientifically sound information about treatments for autism and to improve access to effective, science-based treatments for all people with autism, regardless of age, severity of condition, income or place of residence. An organization with such a mission is needed at this time given the scores of unsubstantiated treatments and the plethora of other organizations with other agendas.

For more information please visit ASAT's website at www.asatonline.org . On the website, you will find extensive information about the scientific support (or lack thereof) behind the full array of treatments proposed for autism, research reviews, articles and guidelines on how to make informed choices and weigh evidence in selecting treatment options, a Help Desk, information about upcoming conferences of interest, and links to helpful sites and other science based organizations. We encourage you to return to ASAT's website as information about autism treatments is frequently updated. ASAT also distributes a free quarterly newsletter, Science in Autism Treatment, that includes featured articles, book reviews, a Clinical Corner, a Consumer Corner, an ethics column, and interviews with prominent leaders in the field. Sign up information is available at <http://asatonline.org/signup>

About the Association for Professional Behavior Analysts (APBA)

The Association of Professional Behavior Analysts (APBA) is a nonprofit organization that is focused on serving professional practitioners of behavior analysis and others who are interested in the practice of behavior analysis. The PPP SIG is very thankful that the ABPA has endorsed the Consumer Guidelines put forth by the Autism SIG as we feel it is critically important that consumers be given the tools needed to make the best possible choices among providers.

APBA's mission includes, but is not limited to, providing resources and educational opportunities to Behavior Analyst Certification Board-credentialed professional behavior analysts; working with federal, state, governmental, and third-party entities towards enhancing recognition of behavior analysis; providing resources to professionals in other fields and to consumers interested in learning more about behavior analytic services; supporting improvements in and access to services provided by professional behavior analysts; and promoting public understanding of the professional practice of behavior analysis. The Parent Professional Partnership SIG is very pleased that the APBA is striving to provide support and guidance in areas that have not been fulfilled by other organizations.

The APBA works closely with the BACB and other organizations in behavior analysis and related fields. Collectively, its Directors have many years' experience practicing ABA, training practitioners, developing and leading behavior analysis organizations, supporting consumers, and working on professional credentialing and public policies. In the short year since APBA was officially launched, the organization has:

- worked closely with behavior analysts, advocates, and policymakers in more than a dozen states on policies to support the practice of behavior analysis, such as laws requiring health insurance to cover ABA intervention for autism spectrum disorders
- published a monthly electronic newsletter tailored to the interests of professional behavior analysts
- issued position statements and written letters to policymakers on several issues of importance to behavior analysts and consumers of ABA services
- developed a user-friendly website
- established partnerships with many behavior analysis associations, advocacy organizations, and service providers
- formed an Autism Spectrum Disorders Task Force
- conducted the first-ever survey of the employment circumstances of professional behavior analysts
- provided members with access to professional liability insurance

Membership in APBA is open to professional behavior analysts and others who are interested in the practice of ABA, including professionals from various disciplines, consumers, and students. For the low annual dues, members receive

- Access to expert, concrete help with advocating for public policies to support behavior analysis, starting and building behavior analysis associations, and practicing behavior analysis
- A subscription to the monthly APBA Reporter with its timely, practical information on public policies affecting ABA practitioners and consumers, applied research findings, sources of

funding for ABA services, and regular “Practitioner’s Notebook” and “Ethics Challenge” columns.

- For most U.S. members, the opportunity to purchase health insurance at competitive rates through APBA’s agreement with the Association Health Program
- Access to the “Members Only” section of the APBA website, which will include a large array of resources.

APBA also offers several levels of sponsorship for advocacy groups and organizations that offer ABA services and products. For membership and sponsorship applications and more information about APBA, please visit www.apbahome.net.

About the Behavior Analyst Certification Board

The Behavior Analyst Certification Board®, Inc. (BACB®) is a nonprofit corporation established in 1998 to meet professional credentialing needs identified by behavior analysts, governments, and consumers of behavior analysis services. The BACB adheres to the national standards for boards that grant professional credentials. The BACB certification procedures and content undergo regular psychometric review and validation, pursuant to a job analysis survey of the profession and standards established by content experts in the field. The BACB’s credentialing programs are accredited by the National Council for Certifying Agencies, the accreditation body of the Institute for Credentialing Excellence.

The BACB credentials practitioners at three levels. Individuals who wish to become Board Certified Behavior Analysts® (BCBA®) must possess at least a Masters Degree, have 225 classroom hours of specific graduate-level coursework, meet experience requirements, and pass the BCBA examination. Persons wishing to be Board Certified Assistant Behavior Analysts® (BCaBA®) must have at least a Bachelors Degree, have 135 classroom hours of specific coursework, meet experience requirements, and pass the BCaBA examination. The Board Certified Behavior Analyst-Doctoral designation is available to BCBA’s with doctoral

degrees who meet additional criteria. BACB certificants must accumulate continuing education credits to maintain their credentials.

The BACB administers the examinations three times per year in over 200 sites within the United States and over 150 sites outside the U.S. The BACB has approved course sequences in over 200 universities worldwide. For more information, visit www.BACB.com.

About the Cambridge Center for Behavioral Studies

The Cambridge Center for Behavioral Studies is a nonprofit charitable organization whose mission is to advance the scientific study of behavior and its humane application to the solution of practical problems, including the prevention and relief of human suffering. The Cambridge Center website, www.behavior.org, contains behavior analysis resources such as guidelines for choosing a behavior analyst and a glossary of behavioral terminology. Online tutorials on such topics as positive reinforcement and behaviorism may also be found. Included is a list of publications related to behavior analysis, book reviews, abstracts and a newsletter, as well as suggestions for effective parenting, such as behavioral parenting abstracts, articles and internet parenting links. The website contains an overview of Applied Behavior Analysis (ABA) and a list of research and applied settings in which behavior analysts work.

In the autism section, one of the largest sections on the website, scientifically validated information about the causes of autism may be found, and the ABA approach to treating autism. The content of this section is carefully refereed by an Advisory Board comprised of leaders in ABA and autism. The website seeks to bring together knowledge and resources that have been accumulated; to report new findings as they become available; and to present information that has been obtained from objective results and subjected to experimental validation. The intended audience is people with a personal interest in autism (e.g., parents, siblings, other relatives, friends, neighbors and advocates), people with professional interests in autism (e.g., medical practitioners, nurses, occupational therapists, psychologists, speech pathologists and others who contribute to research and the provision of effective services), and students and others thinking about entering the field of research and intervention in autism.

About Autism New Jersey

Established in 1965, Autism New Jersey is now the largest statewide network of parents and professionals dedicated to improving the lives of individuals with autism and their families. Autism New Jersey is a nonprofit agency committed to ensuring safe and fulfilling lives for individuals with autism, their families and the professionals who support them. Through awareness, credible information, education and public policy initiatives, Autism New Jersey leads the way to lifelong individualized services provided with skill and compassion. Autism New Jersey recognizes the autism community's many contributions to society and work to enhance their resilience, abilities and quality of life.

We offer:

Awareness

- Promotion of autism awareness to the general public through collaboration with the media, businesses and concerned citizens through our Autism Ambassador Program.

Information

- Toll-free Information & Referral Line, 1-800-4-AUTISM, responds to more than 3,500 callers per year.
- [Referral lists](#) to link families with service providers.
- [Assistance with advocacy and legal rights](#) issues for parents and guardians of individuals with autism of all ages.
- Community outreach and partnerships to provide autism information to diverse populations and groups.
- Wide variety of free publications to educate readers about autism.

Education

- [Workshops](#) for parents and other family members of children with autism.
- Workshops for teachers and other professionals responsible for educating and caring for children and adults with autism.

- [Annual Conference](#) , one of the largest of its kind in the nation, with more than 1,200 attendees.

Public Policy

- [Informing legislators and state officials](#) about issues that affect New Jersey's autism community.

Autism New Jersey is grounded in science, strengthened by knowledge and devoted to creating a society of compassion and inclusion for all those touched by autism. For more information, please visit www.autismnj.org