

Benefits of Licensure for Behavior Analysts

1. **Consumer protections:** If a consumer of behavior analytic services knows that their provider is a licensed behavior analyst, the consumer can feel assured that the person has met specific competency standards. Disciplinary actions are documented by way of the state licensing board.
2. **Provider protections:** Should a claim be made against a licensed behavior analyst, the state licensing board has a formal process of handling these claims.
3. **Recognition of the discipline:** A license helps to affirm that behavior analysis is a distinct discipline, separate from other practices such as speech and language pathology, occupational therapy, or counseling.

Frequently Asked Questions

1. ***What is the practice of behavior analysis?*** (Md. Code Ann., Hlth Occ. Art II, 17-6A-01(F)):
 - The design, implementation, and evaluation of systematic instructional and environmental modifications to produce socially significance improvement in human behavior. The practice of behavior analysis includes:
 - i. The empirical identification of functional relations between behavior and environmental factors, known as functional assessment and analysis; and
 - ii. Interventions based on scientific research and the direct observation and measurement of behavior and environment.
2. ***What types of services are excluded from the practice of behavior analysis?*** (Md. Code Ann., Hlth Occ. Art II, 17-6A-01(F)):
 - The practice of behavior analysis does not include psychological testing, diagnosis of a mental or physical disorder, neuropsychology, psychotherapy, cognitive therapy, sex therapy, psychoanalysis, hypnotherapy, counseling, or any sub discipline of psychology as treatment modalities.
3. ***I am a BCBA and hold no other state or national credential or license, and I am not supervised by a licensed behavior analyst or another health care provider licensed under the Health Occupations Article who is authorized to practice behavior analysis in the state of Maryland. Am I required to apply for licensure as a behavior analyst if I plan on practicing Behavior Analysis in Maryland?***
 - Yes.

4. ***I am a BCBA. Can I continue to carry out my practice after December 31, 2015 without holding a license with this Board?***
 - No. All BCBAs must have a license by December 31, 2015 or the behavior analyst may be subject to disciplinary action.

5. ***I am a BCaBA. Am I required to apply for licensure as a behavior analyst?***
 - No. There is no license currently available at the BCaBA level.

6. ***I am a BCaBA. Can I practice behavior analysis in Maryland?***
 - No, unless under the supervision of a licensed behavior analyst or another health care provider licensed under the Health Occupations Article who is authorized to practice behavior analysis in the State of Maryland.

7. ***I am practicing behavior analysis according to the statute, but I do not qualify for a license, may I practice in Maryland?***
 - No, unless under the supervision of a licensed behavior analyst or another health care provider licensed under the Health Occupations Article who is authorized to practice behavior analysis in the State of Maryland.

8. ***I am having trouble with billing/authorization/obtaining payment for my behavior analytic services from an insurance company. What can I do?***
 - Questions about insurance coverage can be directed to the individual insurance company or the Maryland Insurance Administration (www.mdinsurance.state.md.us).

9. ***I am a BCBA and moving to Maryland, can I start the licensure process before I move to Maryland?***
 - Yes.
Please follow this link:
<http://health.maryland.gov/bopc/pdfs/behavioranalystapplication.pdf>

10. ***Will the Board accept electronic college transcripts for review of licensure requirements?***
 - Yes, during the State of Emergency (COVID 19) the Board will accept official electronic transcripts from the institutions.