



ONTABA **REGULATION** **RESOURCE** **FOR PARENTS** **AND CAREGIVERS**

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Question	Shorter/ Simpler Answers (Where needed)	Longer/More Complex Answers
<p>What is Applied Behavior Analysis (ABA)?</p>	<p>ABA (Applied Behaviour Analysis) is the study of learning, behaviour, and environmental impacts. It focuses on teaching new skills and reducing challenging behaviour. Behaviour analysts supervise ABA and provide programming based on personal strengths and needs. They use data to track progress and adjust strategies.</p>	<p>ABA is the study of how learning takes place, how behaviour works, and how environments impact learning. There have been thousands of research studies over the last 50+ years to support the strategies used in ABA with people of any age, with or without a diagnosis. Because every person is unique, ABA interventions are individualized and specific to each person's strengths and needs. ABA focuses on teaching new skills and reducing challenging behaviour. Behaviour Analysts track progress carefully, using data to adjust strategies as needed.</p> <p>In ABA, "behaviour" does not just include challenging behaviour such as hitting. It means anything a person does or says. This includes many skills such as:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● Talking ● Playing ● Eating ● Learning about emotions

<p>How does ABA help?</p>	<p>ABA helps by teaching or improving useful skills (e.g., cooperation, communication) and reducing harmful behaviours (e.g., self-harm, running into traffic).</p>	<p>ABA can help in two main ways:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. It can teach or improve useful skills, such as <ol style="list-style-type: none"> a. Positive behaviours (e.g. staying on task, improving social skills, cooperating with difficult or tasks that are unpreferred) b. Learn new skills (e.g. communication skills, academic skills, social skills, fine motor skills, gross motor skills) 2. It can reduce harmful behaviours or create barriers, like hurting oneself or others. It can also teach new skills to replace those challenging behaviours, such as communication. <p>ABA aims to help a person live a safe, meaningful, and enjoyable life. The individual and their loved ones help to determine this.</p>
<p>How does ABA work?</p>	<p>ABA uses methods that have been proven to work through scientific research. For example, it might use rewards (e.g., praise or giving an item a person</p>	<p>ABA uses methods that have been proven to work through scientific research. For example, it might use rewards (e.g., praise or giving an item a person enjoys) to encourage skill development. The goal is to:</p>

	<p>enjoys) to encourage skill development.</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Help with the person's needs (e.g., independent toileting) • Reduce behaviours that may be dangerous (e.g., running into traffic) • Increase helpful behaviours (e.g., taking turns)
<p>Who can provide ABA services in Ontario?</p>	<p>Anyone can use ABA techniques, but only registered professionals can use the title "Behaviour Analyst."</p> <p>The use of titles such as BCaBA (Board Certified Assistant Behavior Analyst) and RBT (Registered Behavior Technician) are violations of the <i>Psychology and Behaviour Analysis Act, 2021d</i> in Ontario.</p>	<p>Anyone can use ABA techniques in Ontario. Several types of professionals can provide Applied Behavior Analysis (ABA) services in Ontario:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. <i>Behaviour Analysts ("RBA (Ont.)")</i>: Starting July 1, 2024, Behaviour Analysts practicing ABA in Ontario must be registered with the College of Psychologists and Behaviour Analysts of Ontario (CPBAO) and will get to use the protected title of Behaviour Analysts, and may use the RBA (Ont.) credential. It is important to note that while <i>only</i> registered professionals can use the title "Behaviour Analyst", other professionals can use ABA strategies. 2. <i>Behaviour Analysts ("RBA (Ont.)")</i>: are responsible for clinical decision-making when they are named the (clinical) supervisor of the case. They may assign some tasks to other professionals who are

		<p>competent and qualified. Others can support a client by implementing direct sessions and/or working on some tasks related to supervision. Note that the Behaviour Analyst remains responsible for all tasks including those assigned to others that are related to supervision.</p> <p>3. <i>Other healthcare professionals:</i> ABA techniques may be used by various professionals, such as:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ Teachers ○ Social workers ○ Occupational therapists ○ Speech-language pathologists ○ Educators ○ Nurses <p>4. <i>Board Certified Behavior Analysts (BCBAs) and BCBA-Ds:</i> These professionals, certified by the Behavior Analyst Certification Board (BACB), will need to register with the CPBAO to use their credentials after July 1, 2024.</p> <p>5. <i>Other ABA practitioners:</i> The Act allows for a 24-month transitional period for those who can demonstrate competence in ABA practice to apply for registration into the college, even if they don't hold BCBA certification. This group of practitioners</p>
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		<p>cannot use any variation of the “Behaviour Analyst” title.</p> <p>The use of titles such as BCaBA (Board Certified Assistant Behavior Analyst) and RBT (Registered Behavior Technician) are violations of the <i>Psychology and Behaviour Analysis Act, 2021</i> in Ontario and should not be used.</p>
<p>What is a Behavior Analyst (R.B.A. (Ont.))?</p>		<p>A Behaviour Analyst is a regulated healthcare professional who helps people learn new skills and change their behaviours (if needed). To use the “behaviour analyst” title, Behaviour Analysts must be registered with the CPBAO.</p> <p>When <i>Behaviour Analysts (“RBA (Ont.)”)</i> act as supervisors they are responsible for clinical decision-making. They may assign some tasks to other professionals who are competent and qualified. Other professionals can support a client by implementing direct sessions and/or working on some tasks related to supervision. Note that the Behaviour Analyst remains responsible for all tasks</p>

		<p>including those assigned to others that are related to supervision.</p> <p>Find a Behaviour Analyst today.</p>
<p>What does a Behaviour Analyst (R.B.A. (Ont.)) do?</p>		<p>Behaviour Analysts:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● Look to figure out why and how people behave ● Create plans to help people reduce behaviours that cause barriers and learn new skills ● When <i>Behaviour Analysts</i> (“RBA (Ont.)”) act as supervisors they are responsible for clinical decision-making. They may assign some tasks to other professionals who are competent and qualified. Other professionals can support a client by implementing direct sessions and/or working on some tasks related to supervision. Note that the Behaviour Analyst remains responsible for all tasks including those assigned to others that are related to supervision.



<p>What training does a Behaviour Analyst have?</p>	<p>R.B.A. (Ont.)s must hold a master's or doctoral level degree with training in ABA, have documented experience under the supervision of another Behaviour Analyst, and write a comprehensive exam</p>	<p>To become a Behaviour Analyst, a person must hold a master's or doctoral-level degree with training in ABA. In addition, they must have documented experience under the supervision of another Behaviour Analyst and write a comprehensive exam. This is a similar level of education, experience, and process to that of other healthcare professionals, such as Psychologists.</p> <p>For more information on requirements, you can read the outline provided by the CPBAO.</p>
<p>Where do Behaviour Analysts work?</p>		<p>Behaviour Analysts can work in many places, such as:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● Schools ● Hospitals ● Clinics ● Homes ● Community centers ● Other places across communities

<p>What changed in July, 2024?</p>	<p>A new law, the Psychology and Applied Behaviour Analysis Act, 2021, came into effect in Ontario on July 1, 2024. This law states that only people who are officially registered with the College of Psychologists and Behaviour Analysts of Ontario (CPBAO) can call themselves " Behaviour Analysts."</p>	<p>Starting July 1, 2024, a new law called the Psychology and Applied Behaviour Analysis Act, 2021 was enacted in Ontario. This law states that:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Only people who are officially registered with the College of Psychologists and Behaviour Analysts of Ontario (CPBAO) can call themselves a "Behaviour Analyst." 2. If someone wants to use the title "Behaviour Analyst," they must register with the CPBAO first. 3. This rule helps make sure that people using this title have the right training and follow professional standards, and provides the person accessing services with protection while using services
<p>Why are Behaviour Analysts being regulated?</p>		<p>"The goal is to ensure that all registered Behaviour Analysts will have the qualifications and competencies to deliver safe, effective, and quality care to the Ontario public." CPBAO Website</p>
<p>What is a regulatory body?</p>	<p>A regulatory body is an organization that oversees and controls how certain health care</p>	<p>A regulatory body is an organization that oversees and controls how certain healthcare professionals do their jobs. These bodies protect the public and ensure</p>

	<p>professionals perform their jobs. These bodies exist to protect the public and ensure that professionals provide safe, high-quality care.</p>	<p>professionals provide safe and good quality care. They do things like:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● Set rules and standards for the profession ● Check that professionals have the right education and skills ● Give licenses to practice ● Handle complaints about professionals, including investigation and restitution ● Discipline professionals who break the rules
<p>What does it mean for Behaviour Analysts to be regulated professionals?</p>	<p>Being regulated means Behaviour Analysts now have official rules to follow, need to register with a regulatory body, and are held to high professional standards to ensure quality care for the public.</p>	<p>For Behaviour Analysts to be regulated professionals in Ontario means:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. They are now officially recognized by the government as healthcare professionals. 2. They must follow specific rules and standards set by their regulatory body, the College of Psychologists and Behaviour Analysts of Ontario (CPBAO). 3. To work as a behaviour analyst in Ontario, they need to: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ Register with the CPBAO

		<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ Meet certain education and training requirements ○ Follow a code of ethics and professional standards ○ Keep their skills up to date <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 4. Only people registered with the CPBAO can use the title "Behaviour Analyst" (or a variation) in Ontario. 5. If a Behaviour Analyst doesn't follow the rules, the CPBAO can discipline them, including denying them the right to practice. 6. This regulation helps protect the public by ensuring Behavior Analysts are properly trained and follow professional standards.
<p>What is different now that Behaviour Analysts are regulated?</p>	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Name protection: Only people registered with the College of Psychologists and Behaviour Analysts of Ontario (CPBAO) can call themselves "Behaviour Analysts." 2. Must be registered: Anyone doing ABA work as a Behaviour Analyst in Ontario needs to register 	<p>ABA services should not look significantly different after regulation takes effect in Ontario on July 1, 2024. However, there are some important changes to be aware of:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Title protection: Only those registered with the College of Psychologists and Behaviour Analysts of Ontario (CPBAO) can use the title "Behaviour Analyst" or represent themselves as qualified to practice as Behaviour Analysts in Ontario. This

	<p>with the CPBAO. They'll be called Behaviour Analysts (R.B.A. (Ont.)).</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 3. Follow rules: Behaviour Analysts must follow the CPBAO's rules and Standards of Practice . 4. Keep people safe: This change helps ensure Behaviour Analysts have the right training and skills. 5. Complaint system: If someone complains about or is harmed by a Behaviour Analyst, they can tell the CPBAO about it. 6. Quality check: The CPBAO will ensure Behaviour Analysts are doing well. 	<p>means that you may not see people using the credentials of RBT or BCaBA anymore.</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 2. Registration requirement: Behaviour Analysts practicing ABA in Ontario must be registered with the CPBAO and will be called Registered Behaviour Analysts (RBAs). 3. Professional standards: Behaviour Analysts must follow the rules, standards, and code of ethics set by the CPBAO. 4. Public protection: The regulation aims to protect the public by ensuring Behaviour Analysts meet certain education, training, and professional standards. 5. Complaints process: There will be a formal complaints and disciplinary process through the CPBAO for addressing concerns about Behaviour Analysts. 6. Quality assurance: The CPBAO will have quality assurance measures to maintain professional standards. 7. There used to be three-tiers of service in ABA services (e.g. BCBA/Clinical Supervisor, mid-level staff/Senior Therapist, and direct implementer/instructor therapist). CPBAO has a two tiers of service, which means there are BCBA's
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		<p>and direct implementation staff. There is no longer a mid-level.</p>
<p>What does this mean for people getting ABA services?</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● Your Behaviour Analyst will have official papers showing they're registered, i.e. certificate of registration and registration number. ● ABA might be done more similarly across different places. ● If you have concerns, there's a clear way to report them. <p>The main goal is to ensure that ABA services are good and safe across Ontario. The way ABA is done shouldn't change much, but</p>	<p>While the core ABA techniques and practices should remain largely the same, clients may notice:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● More formal credentials and registration status of their service providers ● Potentially more standardized practices across providers ● A clear process for addressing any concerns or complaints <p>Overall, the regulation is intended to ensure consistent, high-quality ABA services across Ontario, rather than significantly changing how those services are delivered. Clients should still receive evidence-based ABA interventions but with added professional oversight and standards assurance.</p>



	<p>there will be more official oversight to ensure its quality.</p>	
<p>How can I tell if a Behaviour Analyst is regulated in Ontario?</p>	<p>Look for the title " Behaviour Analyst" or "R.B.A. (Ont.)". Only people registered with the College of Psychologists and Behaviour Analysts of Ontario (CPBAO) can use this title and credential You can also visit the CPBAO website and check their registry</p>	<p>To check if a Behaviour Analyst is registered in Ontario, you can follow these simple steps:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. After July 1, 2024, look for the title " Behaviour Analyst" or "R.B.A. (Ont.)". Only people registered with the College of Psychologists and Behaviour Analysts of Ontario (CPBAO) can use this title. 2. Ask to see their registration certificate from the CPBAO. Registered Behavior Analysts should have this document. 3. You can check the CPBAO's public register on its website. Here, you can search for a person's name to confirm if they are registered. 4. If unsure, you can contact the CPBAO directly to ask about a specific Behavior Analyst's registration status. 5. Remember that after July 1, 2024, only those registered with the CPBAO can legally use the title "Behaviour Analyst" in Ontario.

		<p>6. If someone provides ABA services but doesn't call themselves a "Behaviour Analyst," they may still be allowed to practice, but the CPBAO won't regulate them.</p> <p>By following these steps, you can ensure the Behavior Analyst you're working with is properly registered in Ontario.</p>
<p>What should I do if I have a complaint about ABA services?</p>		<p>You can file a complaint with the CPBAO if you have concerns about services you have received from a Behaviour Analyst. Learn more about filing a complaint</p>