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ANNOUNCEMENTS & REMINDERS

Welcome to our first quarterly higher education newsletter! This newsletter will keep you informed and engaged with the latest updates on ABAI's educational initiatives. As accreditation and recognition serve a crucial role in ensuring quality and standards of our academic programs, this newsletter serves as a resource for sharing announcements, upcoming deadlines, and beneficial resources so programs can stay ahead in maintaining excellence.

Announcement: We are excited to share ABAI's Recognition Committee recently voted to extend waiving of the following eligibility criterion: *the program must have at least one graduate*. This waiver is extended an additional year, through **December 31, 2026**, for established VCSs transitioning to the Tiered Model and applying for recognition (Tiers 2a-4b). Please read the [Guidance for Transitioning to the Tiered Model](#) to see this update and more information related to your program's transition to ABAI recognition.

Reminder - Increased Fees: Effective July 1, 2025, the following site visitor fees will be implemented for U.S. based programs undergoing initial and re-accreditation:

- \$2,000 Site visit fee—per site visitor, minimum two site visitors.

Please visit our [News Page](#) for additional details.

TIERED MODEL of EDUCATION

Higher Education Institutions (HEI)	1	Accredited Degree Program with Experiential Learning
	2a	Recognized Degree Program with Experiential Learning
	2b	Recognized Degree Program
	3a	Recognized Non-Degree Program with Experiential Learning
	3b	Recognized Non-Degree Program
Non-HEI Organizations	4a	Recognized Non-Degree Program with Experiential Learning
	4b	Recognized Non-Degree Program

The model is based on the ABAI Accreditation Board standards (Tier 1) and includes four tiers, or levels, of recognition, leading toward ABAI accreditation.

The tiers are organized by three factors:



Whether the program is housed in an institution of higher education

Tier 4 is available only to non-US programs that are housed outside of a higher education institution. These are areas where behavior analysis may not be formally recognized or are developing and need supports to grow in the region.



Whether it produces academic degrees

Degree programs are encompassed in tier 2. Non-degree programs (such as post degree certificates) are encompassed in tier 3.



Whether it includes supervised experiential learning

Tier 1 and tiers with an “a” designation require supervised experiential learning. Programs recognized at Tiers 1, 2a, 3a, and 4a provide students with hands on experience applying the principles of behavior.

To learn more about ABAI’s Tiered Model of Education, please visit our [website](#).



FEATURED RESOURCE

Consultations with Dr. Carol Pilgrim

We are excited to share a new resource available to all programs interested in ABAI accreditation and recognition: free consultations with ABAI's Education Recruitment and Development Administrator, Dr. Carol Pilgrim. Dr. Pilgrim supports programs in the following ways:

- Assesses program qualifications and eligibility requirements.
- Meets with program coordinators, faculty, and administration to discuss ABAI recognition and accreditation.
- Works with program coordinators to establish goals and timelines to meet all criteria and apply.
- Guides the program through the application process to ensure a quality submission.

To request an initial meeting with a representative from ABAI's Education Department or a consultation with Dr. Pilgrim, please complete [this survey](#).

RECENT ACCREDITATION AND RECOGNITION DECISIONS

ACCREDITED

Auburn University

M.S. in Applied Behavior Analysis (2024–2028)

Caldwell University

Ph.D. in Applied Behavior Analysis (2020–2029)

M.A. in Applied Behavior Analysis (2014–2029)

Salve Regina University

M.S. in Behavior Analysis (2022–2029)

University of Nebraska Medical Center

Ph.D. in Applied Behavior Analysis (2014–2031)

University of Texas at San Antonio

M.S. in Behavior Analysis (2024–2028)

West Virginia University

Ph.D. in Psychology with a Specialization in Behavior Analysis (2003–2012; 2014–2031)

M.S. in Behavior Analysis (2024–2030)

Undergraduate Certificate in Behavior Analysis (B.S. and B.A.) (2024–2030)

RECOGNIZED

ABA Online

ABA PRO—Tier 4b (2024–2026)

Assumption University

M.A. in Applied Behavior Analysis—Tier 2a (2023–2025)

Eastern Connecticut State University

Bachelor's of Science in Psychology, Concentration in Behavior Analysis—Tier 2b (2023–2026)

David Yellin Academic College for Education

Post-Graduate Course in Applied Behavior Analysis—Tier 3a (2024–2026)

See a full list of [ABAI-Accredited Programs](#)

See a full list of [ABAI-Recognized Programs](#)

BREAKING DOWN COMPONENT STANDARD 6-100

6-100: The faculty consists of behavior analysts who document their expertise in the applied, experimental, or conceptual analysis of behavior. The core faculty consists of full-time doctoral-level behavior analysts. Other program faculty, full- or part-time, have master's or doctoral degrees in behavior analysis or a related field.

“Core Program Faculty” devote at least 50% of their professional time to program-related activities—this does not include broader department administration or teaching in programs outside the accredited or recognized program.

“Associated Program Faculty” make a substantial contribution to the program (e.g., faculty within the department that teach program courses).

“Other Contributors” have a role in the program, but to a much more limited extent than core or associated faculty and have minimal contact with students (e.g., adjunct faculty, supervisors, seminar presenters, etc.).

Do all faculty have to be BCBA-Ds?

No. The faculty standards do not specify certifications nor licenses. Not all doctoral-level behavior analysts are BCBA-Ds (though your program's objectives may necessitate relevant training, certification, or licenses).

What is the required faculty to student ratio?

ABAI's standards do not specify a required ratio of faculty to students. The standards request the program to demonstrate (in standard area 6 and its component standards) the faculty are sufficient in number and quality to fulfill the program's mission. It is important for the program to provide an analysis of faculty workload and teaching requirements, supervisory roles, administrative duties, class sizes, and other information beyond a student-to-faculty ratio.

**SUBMIT YOUR
QUESTIONS
FOR THE
JANUARY
ISSUE [HERE!](#)**



Recent Site Visit Assignments

We are recruiting site visitors for 2025. We have a variety of programs requiring site visits including on-campus programs, online programs, and programs in and outside of the U.S. Faculty from ABAI-accredited programs play a critical role in serving as site visitors. If you are interested, please complete the forms below and someone from the education department will contact you.

[Click here for sign-up and eligibility attestation](#)

Please note, the above form requires signing in to a google account

[Click here to submit availability for 2024/2025](#)

As a reminder, site visitors are issued a \$1,000 honorarium per visit (in addition to reimbursing travel and lodging expenses). Thank you for your consideration of this request!



CONTACT INFORMATION

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UPCOMING EVENTS

