

# AUTISM AND APPLIED BEHAVIOR ANALYSIS (CERT)

## Graduate Certificate in Autism and Applied Behavior Analysis

Unit: College of Education and Human Development (<http://louisville.edu/education/>) (GE)

Department: Special Education, Early Childhood, and Prevention Science (<http://louisville.edu/education/departments/sped/>)

Program Webpage (<http://louisville.edu/education/degrees/bcba-certificate/>)

Academic Plan Code(s): AABACAA, AABACAAO

## Program Information

*This program can be completed in a traditional classroom format or entirely online (p. 1).*

The University of Louisville's Graduate Certificate in Autism and Applied Behavior Analysis provides practitioners with advanced knowledge in autism research and behavioral analytic approaches to skill development and the treatment of challenging behavior.

Students receive rigorous academic work within the program's carefully designed course sequence that is taught by faculty with practical and research experience in autism and applied behavior analysis.

Upon completion of the program's approved courses, students with an approved masters degree must complete a 1,500 hour practicum to be eligible to sit for the Board Certified Behavior Analyst Certification Exam. For more information on certification, go to [bacb.com](http://www.bacb.com) (<http://www.bacb.com/>).

Certification in applied behavior analysis demonstrates a level of competency in research-based principles for education and the treatment of challenging behavior.

The reported increase in the number of children with autism suggests growth in the availability of positions for behavior analysts and schools and the community.

## Admission Requirements

The Behavior Analyst Certification Board, Inc.® has approved the University of Louisville's course sequence as meeting the coursework requirements for eligibility to take the Board Certified Behavior Analyst Examination®. Applicants will have to meet additional requirements to qualify. For more information on certification, go to [www.bacb.com](http://www.bacb.com) (<http://www.bacb.com/>).

Admission to to the program requires a graduate application to the Graduate School (<http://louisville.edu/graduate/futurestudents/apply-materials/application/>).

Applicants must also have the following:

- A bachelor's or master's degree in Special Education, Psychology, Speech Language Pathology, Occupational Therapy or Social Work from an accredited institution
- A 2.75 overall GPA in the bachelor's degree and/or a 3.0 overall GPA in the master's degree and any additional graduate work
- Official transcripts

- Professional certificate/license in a field related to autism (e.g., Special Education, Psychology, Speech Language Pathology, Occupational Therapy or Social Work), current employment working with individuals impacted by autism, or availability to complete 10 hours of fieldwork per week throughout the duration of the program
- Three letters of recommendation related to the applicant's work with individuals with autism
- Grade of B-minus or higher in required prerequisite courses within the past three years (EDSP 644 and EDSP 570)
- Submission of GRE scores
- Test of English as a Foreign Language (TOEFL) is required of all foreign students from countries in which English is not the native language.

**Those intending to seek certification as a Board Certified Behavior Analyst (BCBA) must hold a master's degree in Education, Psychology, or Behavior Analysis**

## Program Requirements

### Prerequisite Courses

Code	Title	Hours
EDSP 644	Applied Behavior Analysis	3
EDSP 570	Autism: Introduction and Understanding	3

Both must have been taken within the past three years with a grade of B-minus or higher.

### Program Coursework

Code	Title	Hours
EDSP 671	Autism: Strategies and Techniques	3
EDSP 669	Single Subject Research Methods and Designs	3
EDSP 546	Behavior Analytic Approach to Communication	3
<i>Midpoint Assessment</i>		
EDSP 650	Advanced Applied Behavior Analysis	3
EDSP 651	Professional and Ethical Practice of Applied Behavior Analysis	3
EDSP 673	Research Seminar in Autism Spectrum Disorders	3
<i>Exit Requirements</i>		

**Minimum Total Hours 18**

Minimum of 15 credit hours in 600-level courses is required.

Transfer credits are not accepted to this certificate program.

All courses must be completed within four years of admission to the program.

To complete the program, students must have a minimum of a 3.0 cumulative grade point average. No credit shall be accepted for carrying a grade lower than B-minus.

**Midpoint Assessment:** Students who do not meet the midpoint requirements may be exited from the program. A program faculty panel will review individual cases and make a determination regarding the student's ability to remain in the program. Decisions of the program faculty panel are final.

**Exit Requirement:** Completion of intervention project and presentation with a rating of Satisfactory and grades of B- or higher in all certificate courses.

The Graduate Certificate in Autism and Applied Behavior Analysis (AABACAA) program prepares students to meet the requirements for certification and/or licensure. If you plan to pursue professional licensure or certification you should first determine your state's criteria for examination and licensure to see how/if our program meets those requirements prior to enrollment. We recommend that you also contact your state's licensing board directly to verify that the requirements have not changed recently and to answer any questions especially those regarding additional requirements beyond the degree.

More information about certification or licensure is available at the following website: <https://louisville.edu/oapa/licensure-information> (<https://louisville.edu/oapa/licensure-information/>) (you may search by school or by the name of the program then click on 'View Details' to display the information).

For programs with an online option, more information about certification or licensure is available here: <http://louisville.edu/online/About-Us> (<http://louisville.edu/online/About-Us/>) (please scroll down near the bottom of the page and click on the licensing disclosures tab).