Southern Illinois University Carbondale
Rehn Hall 335A, Mailcode 6502
Carbondale, IL 62901

Dear Dr. Ryan Redner,

On behalf of the Association for Behavior Analysis International (ABAI) Accreditation Board, I am pleased to inform you that the Board has granted re-accreditation through December 31, 2028, to the M.S. in Behavior Analysis and Therapy on-campus program from the Rehabilitation Institute of Southern Illinois University.

The accreditation process is specifically designed to convey information about a training program’s comprehensiveness, rigor, quality, and transparency. Its purpose is to promote quality control and continuous improvement. The Board extends its sincere appreciation to you and your colleagues for your success in helping to preserve the integrity of training in behavior analysis.

The site visitors and Board found commendable aspects of SIU’s training program. The training program is well designed, incorporates a great blend of faculty expertise and experience, and involves good experiential learning opportunities and supervisors for the students. The Board appreciates the collegial nature of your response to the site visit report and the program’s commitment to continuous improvements.

The site visitors and Board raised concerns about the program’s administrative support, structure, and decision making (Standard 4-102), specifically as it relates to the staffing operations in the Center for Autism Spectrum Disorders (C ASD) clinic which is the primary practicum site for students and some faculty’s research. The site visitors recommended the SIU administration to develop positions dedicated to the CASD clinic. The stability in the CASD staffing will directly benefit the faculty of the SIU program to dedicate more time to supervising students and conducting research. SIU’s response letter confirmed the administrative challenges, noting repeated attempts to address the issues without concrete plans or conclusions from SIU’s administration. The program indicated they are creating two permanent staff BCBA positions from the grant that funds the CASD clinic; the positions are pending the approval of the funding agency.
The Board was satisfied with the program’s response and plans to address the issues. To ensure the program is well-resourced to maintain its quality and sustain its continued growth the Board request notifications from SIU once the two staff BCBA positions are filled.

As the accreditation status is granted to the on-campus master’s program, if there are future changes to the program’s modality, please notify me immediately with a completed change report (using ABAI’s Change Report Form) at least ninety (90) days prior to implementation or occurrence of a substantive change. Such changes may require additional reporting, such as a special report or site visit, as described in Title VI Section 6-1-103 of the Accreditation Handbook.

As the program remains accredited, the program is required to pay an annual sustaining fee as described in Title VII Section 7-1-104 of the Accreditation Handbook, and to remain in compliance with the Board’s policies and procedures. I would like to call special attention to three important policies related to public disclosure (Standard 8). Your program is required to:

1. share the program’s accreditation status and display the Board’s masters-level accreditation seal on the program’s website. (See the Board’s Policy on Public Disclosure of Accreditation Status.) The copy of the current version of the seal is included in the email.

2. display on your website a prominent link to the aggregate report of the program’s student outcomes that is posted on the Board’s website. The link to your program’s aggregate report is: https://accreditation.abainternational.org/apply/accredited-programs/southern-illinois-university.aspx (See Title IX, Chapter 3 of the Accreditation Handbook.)

3. submit an annual report and annual fee, normally due April 1 of each year, as described in Title VII of the Accreditation Handbook, using the form posted at https://forms.gle/hjStiMjAu2FduRp79. We received your 2022 annual report information – thank you. ABAI will issue the invoice for the 2023 annual sustaining fees.

The aforementioned policies can be found via the “Documents” tab at https://accreditation.abainternational.org.) As program administrator, you should familiarize yourself with the materials in this section of the Board’s website.
If you have any questions, please do not hesitate to contact me – I am available to help. We look forward to the continued developments and improvements of the program.

Sincerely,

Jenna Mrljak, Ph.D., BCBA
Director of Education
Association for Behavior Analysis International
ABAIaccreditation@ABAIInternational.org

cc: Michael Perone, Ph.D., ABAI Accreditation Board Coordinator