Dear Dr. Makenzie Bayles,

On behalf of the Association for Behavior Analysis International (ABAI) Accreditation Board, I am pleased to inform you that the Board has granted full accreditation through December 31, 2028, to the campus-based M.S. in Applied Behavior Analysis program in the Department of Psychology at Jacksonville State 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 Jacksonville’s training program. The program has a track record of producing well-prepared students, and a strong group of well-qualified faculty. The board was especially appreciative of the strides the program has made in adjusting their thesis/equivalent projects with the recently issued guidance.

The site visitors raised concerns about whether the program had policies of transfer credit readily available (Standards 2-111 and 7-102) and noted the changes the program was making to meet the thesis or equivalent standard (9-109), which impacted the total number of final projects the program had to report (Standard 3-106). The board appreciates the collegial nature of your response to the site visit report and the steps the program has already taken to address the areas of concern.

To ensure the program continues to progress on the thesis/equivalent projects, the board requests a progress report providing evidence of completed thesis/equivalent projects. The progress report must be submitted by November 15, 2025, to permit the program’s full accreditation to continue until December 31, 2028. Sections 3-1-105 and 7-1-101 of the Accreditation Handbook detail information about progress reports and the Board’s actions.

During this grant of accreditation, 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 master-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/jacksonville-state-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/hjStiMjAu2FeduRp79. We received your 2022 annual report information – thank you. We will provide additional information soon regarding next year’s submission.

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 your program assigns a new program administrator during this period, please notify me immediately so I can update our records. If you have any questions, please do not hesitate to contact me – I am available to help.

We look forward to the continued success of the program.

Sincerely,

Jenna Mrljak, Ph.D., BCBA
Deputy Director: Boards and Committees
Association for Behavior Analysis International
ABAIaccreditation@ABAIInternational.org

cc: Ben Witts, Ph.D., IBA, BCBA-D
Incoming ABAI Accreditation Board Coordinator