



August 5, 2024

University of Texas at San Antonio
501 West Cesar E Chavez Blvd
San Antonio, Texas 78207

Dear Dr. Leslie Neely,

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 M.S. in Behavior Analysis, On-Campus program in the Department of Educational Psychology at the University of Texas at San Antonio. The program's accreditation status is granted based on a calendar year with expiration occurring at the end of the year.

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 board noted many commendable aspects of the program. The program is highly regarded by the administration, faculty, and students and provides integral services to the San Antonio community. Resources are available for both faculty and students to support their success, continued professional growth, and contribution to the field. Additionally, the faculty serve as effective and supportive mentors who produce well trained behavior analysts. It is clear that the program plays an important role in the university, community, and field at large.

The board is enthusiastic about the growth and development of the program. However, it raised question about the thesis/equivalent standard and components of public disclosure.

To ensure the program continues to meet accreditation standards, the board recommends continued attention to the following items, some of which are already in progress. The board will pay particular attention to these matters when you apply for accreditation in the future.

- **2-100: Curriculum:** The board would like to see a continued emphasis on the science of behavior in its curriculum to further align with ABAI's mission. As such, you should continue to emphasis the science of behavior throughout the program curriculum for both comprehensive and focused tracks.



- **3-106 Thesis or equivalent projects:** At the time of the self-study application submission, several thesis or equivalent projects were still ongoing, thus the board was unable to review the full scope of projects completed by students at UTSA. **As such, the board requests access to thesis or equivalent project that have been completed since the submission of the self-study application. Please update and send the table included in 3-106 along with access to the final documents for projects completed since the self-study application submission.** Additionally, the board recommends the continued emphasis on scholarly activities for the thesis/equivalent projects based on the [2023 guidance](#).
- **8-103 Disclosure of program outcomes:** The program must ensure its official university website is updated to contain information about the achievement of student outcomes and success of graduates (as outlined in standard area 3). The board appreciates the program's solution of developing a website that can be updated on a regular basis and its ongoing efforts to ensure the university affiliated website is updated. However, to remain in compliance with the public disclosure standard, the program's official university website must be updated on a regular basis with information pertinent to accreditation. As such, please provide an update when the website has been updated with relevant outcomes data. Bi-annual website checks will occur to ensure continued compliance.
- **8-104 Disclosure of accreditation status:** Accredited programs are required to disclose their accreditation status in all advertising and relevant materials (including website). Along with the previous request for website revisions, please provide an update when the website and relevant advertising materials are updated with the appropriate accreditation logos and statements (more information below). Failure to comply with this standard could impact the program's future attempts at accreditation.

The board appreciates the collegial nature of your response to the site visit report and looks forward to the continued development of the program.

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's-level accreditation seal on the program's website. (See the Board's *Policy on Public Disclosure of Accreditation Status*.)
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 will be provided after the second year of accreditation has occurred (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>.

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 applies for re-accreditation, please note it is the responsibility of the program to submit the self-study with the appropriate fees by April 1 of the last year of the current grant of accreditation. If your program wishes to apply for re-accreditation, the self-study, supporting documents, and application fee will be due April 1, 2028 with a site visit occurring prior to September 30, 2028. I will reach out to you the year prior to your final year of accreditation to notify you of this process.

Additionally, 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.

Important Dates:

- **Annual Reports and Annual Sustaining Fees Due:** April 1, 2025, April 1, 2026, April 1, 2027
- **Updated Self-Study, Application Fees, and Annual Report Due:** April 1, 2028
 - **Note:** if your program would like to have a spring site visit, please submit the self-study by February 15.
 - **Note:** Only the annual report is due in 2028, ABAI does not charge a sustaining fee the year a program is applying for re-accreditation.
- **Site Visit for Re-accreditation Due:** September 30, 2028

We look forward to the continued developments and improvements of the program.

Sincerely,

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Alyssa McElroy, Ph.D., BCBA, LBA



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