



BCAP Exam Content Outline

The BCAP Exam Content Outline is intended as a resource for candidates and instructors who are preparing those candidates for the BCAP Exam. Candidates for the BCAP should be prepared to demonstrate their knowledge of each topic delineated in the task list.

A. Autism Spectrum Disorder (7-9%)

1. Distinguishing between evidence-based interventions vs. nonevidence-based interventions
2. Knowledge of deficits in social-emotional reciprocity
3. Knowledge of deficits in nonverbal communicative behaviors used for social interaction
4. Knowledge of deficits in developing, maintaining, and understanding relationships
5. Knowledge of stereotyped or repetitive motor movements, use of objects, or speech
6. Knowledge of insistence on sameness, inflexible adherence to routines, or ritualized patterns of verbal or nonverbal behavior
7. Knowledge of highly restricted, fixated interests that are abnormal in intensity or focus
8. Knowledge of hyper or hyporeactivity to sensory input or unusual interests in sensory aspects of environment
9. Knowledge of levels of severity
10. Knowledge of research regarding treatment intensity
11. Knowledge of early intensive behavioral intervention research
12. Knowledge of foundational autism research

B. Principles of ABA (11-13%)

13. Positive and negative reinforcement
14. Positive and negative punishment
15. Conditioned and unconditioned reinforcer
16. Conditioned and unconditioned punisher
17. Respondent conditioning
18. Operant conditioning
19. Rule-governed behavior
20. Contingency-shaped behavior
21. Extinction
22. Motivating operations
23. Antecedent
24. Behavior
25. Consequence
26. Stimulus
27. Discriminative stimulus
28. Stimulus control

29. Discrete trial

C. Treatment: Skill Acquisition (26-32%)

30. 3-term contingency
31. Discrimination training
32. Discrete trial training
33. Natural environment training
34. Training pivotal behaviors
35. Fluency-based training
36. Task analysis
37. Generalization
38. Maintenance
39. Premack principle
40. Assessment
41. Prompt
42. Errorless learning
43. Most-to-least prompting
44. Least-to-most prompting
45. Prompt fading
46. Chaining
47. Shaping
48. Pacing
49. Alternative and augmentative communication
50. Mand training
51. Tact training
52. Training echoic behavior
53. Training intraverbal behavior
54. Teaching play skills
55. Teaching motor skills
56. Teaching adaptive skills
57. Teaching social skills
58. Teaching executive functioning skills
59. Teaching perspective taking skills
60. Teaching academic skills
61. Program modification and adaptation

D. Treatment: Reduction of Problem Behavior (26-32%)

62. Behavior intervention plan
63. Target behavior
64. Operational definition

65. Functional behavior assessment
66. Indirect assessment
67. Descriptive assessment
68. experimental functional analysis
69. Functions of behavior
70. Antecedent interventions
71. Functional communication training
72. Token economy
73. High-p request sequence / behavioral momentum
74. Noncontingent reinforcement
75. Replacement behavior
76. Extinction procedures
77. Extinction burst
78. Schedules of reinforcement
79. Differential reinforcement of alternative behavior
80. Differential reinforcement of incompatible behavior
81. Differential reinforcement of other behavior
82. Differential reinforcement of low/high/diminishing rates of behavior
83. Response blocking
84. Redirection
85. Overcorrection
86. Response cost
87. Time-out from reinforcement
88. Spontaneous recovery
89. Behavior contracting
90. Self management
91. Group contingencies

E. Behavioral Data Collection and Analysis (5-7%)

92. Measurable dimensions of behavior (e.g., rate, duration, percentage)
93. Measurement procedures (e.g., event and interval recording, timing, time sampling)
94. Analysis of skill acquisition data
95. Analysis of problem behavior data
96. Celeration charts
97. Graphing
98. Interobserver agreement (IOA)

F. Ethical/Legal Considerations (4-6%)

99. Safety procedures
100. Emergency procedures

- 101. Confidentiality procedures
- 102. Recognition and reporting of client abuse and neglect
- 103. Dual relationships protocols
- 104. Prevention of abandonment protocols
- 105. Evidence-based treatment recommendations

G. Clinical Management (10-12%)

- 106. Treatment planning
- 107. Treatment integrity
- 108. Treatment effectiveness
- 109. Coordination of care
- 110. Training caregivers
- 111. Training staff
- 112. Monitoring staff performance
- 113. Mentoring staff
- 114. Documentation
- 115. Assessment
- 116. Discharge planning

The BCAP exam is 175 multiple choice items. 150 items are scored and 25 items are unscored, pre-test items. Candidates have 3 hours to complete the exam. Topics covered by the exam are listed below, followed by a detailed content outline.

- Autism Spectrum Disorder (7-9%)
- Principles of ABA (11-13%)
- Treatment: Skill Acquisition (26-32%)
- Treatment: Reduction of Problem Behavior (26-32%)
- Behavioral Data Collection and Analysis (5-7%)
- Ethical/Legal Considerations (4-6%)
- Clinical Management (10-12%)