



Applied Behavior Analysis Advisory Committee Regular Meeting Minutes

October 6, 2023

Committee members present: Ralph Pampino, Jr., BCBA, LBA (chair)
Amber Persons-Geer, MSW, LICSW, LABA, BCaBA
(vice chair)
Nancy Rosenberg, Ph.D., LBA, BCBA-D
Andrea Elderkin, Public Member
Amy Fenwick, Ph.D., LBA, BCBA-D

Committee members absent: None

Staff members present: Kendra Pitzler, Program Manager
Melissa Green, Executive Director
Luke Eaton, Assistant Attorney General (AAG)
Shelbee Scrimo, Program Support
Jeanine Johnson, Credentialing Supervisor
Alyssa Jennings, Health Care Authority

Guest presenters: Bill O'Connell, Ed.D., LMHC, NCC, University of
Washington

On October 6, 2023, the Applied Behavior Analysis Advisory Committee met via web conference. Notice of the meeting was published on the [Applied Behavior Analysis profession website](#) and was sent out through the GovDelivery listserv.

OPEN SESSION:

1. Call to Order – Amber Persons-Geer, MSW, LICSW, LABA, BCaBA Vice Chair

- 1.1. Call to Order – The vice-chair called the meeting to order at 10:03 a.m.
- 1.2. Introductions - Committee and agency staff members introduced themselves and their area of practice.
- 1.3. Approval of the October 6, 2023 regular meeting agenda: *Motion to approve the agenda, seconded, vote 4-0.*
- 1.4. Approval of the June 2, 2023 regular meeting minutes: *Motion to approve, seconded, vote 4-0.*

2. Public Comment – Amber Persons-Geer, MSW, LICSW, LABA, BCaBA Vice Chair

There were no comments from the public.

3. Behavioral Health Support Specialist – Bill O’Connell, Ed.D., LMHC, NCC, University of Washington.

At the June committee meeting, members had questions relating to the scope and history of the behavioral health support specialist, a new profession authorized by the Legislature this past session. Mr. O’Connell is the Director of the Behavioral health Support Specialist Clinical Training Program at the University of Washington and provided a presentation on this new profession. Questions were raised about the possible confusion of the profession’s name when it comes to who patients should see or be referred to by their providers.

4. ABA Program Statistics

4.1. Budget Report - Kendra Pitzler, Program Manager

Ms. Pitzler presented the latest budget numbers (as of June 2023) to the committee. The current fund balance is \$474,658.

4.2. Credentialing Report – Jeanine Johnson, Credentialing Manager

Ms. Johnson briefed the committee on the latest licensing statistics, stating there is limited staff now but should hopefully be fully staffed by the end of the year to help improve processing time. The best way for applicants to apply is through the online application.

License Type	Active	Pending Applications
CBT	3,714	479
LABA	217	30
LBA	1,238	38

4.3. Disciplinary Statistics - Kendra Pitzler, Program Manager

Ms. Pitzler briefed the committee on the program's disciplinary statistics for the previous quarter (May 2023 to June 2023) and the biennium to-date (July 2021 to June 2023).

5. Program Manager Report – Kendra Pitzler, Program Manager

Ms. Pitzler provided information about the Behavior Analyst Regulator's Conference that will be held one day prior to the annual conference of the Association of Professional Behavior Analysts in New Orleans on March 7th, 2024. The committee agreed to have Ms. Fenwick attend.

6. Executive Director Report – Melissa Green, Executive Director

Ms. Green provided an update regarding department reorganization with adding the credentialing office to the office of health professions. Mr. Pampino had concerns about whether the reorganization will affect the processing time of applications. Ms. Green indicated that there has already been a pilot and this was found to have a positive effect on processing time.

7. ABA Licensure Rules Update – Kendra Pitzler, Program Manager

Ms. Pitzler provided an update regarding the status of the current rulemaking revisions for [Chapter 246-805 WAC](#). The CR-102 containing the final draft language is moving through the review process within the department. The hearing date will possibly be in January if everything can be submitted by the beginning of December.

Ms. Pitzler provided information about a new law and secretary rules that require all secretary professions that currently submit to continuing education to take two hours of Health Equity continuing education every four years. When this goes into effect on January 1st, these hours will be part of the regular continuing education hours and not an addition to. The rules will clarify this when they are adopted.

8. Legislation

8.1. 2024 Committee Request Legislation –Kendra Pitzler, Program Manager.
Committee members asked that staff take forward a request to the Department of Health asking the department to amend the ABA law to allow all licensure requirements to be set in rule. Ms. Pitzler provided the update that the Department of Health will not be moving forward with this.

8.2. Request for Representative for the 2024 Legislative Meetings with the Department of Health – Melissa Green, Executive Director.

During legislative session, the department hosts a legislative conference call for members of boards and committees. Ms. Fenwick volunteered to represent the ABA committee at these meetings with Ms. Rosenberg as the backup representative.

8.3. 2023 Legislative Changes that affect the ABA committee or the ABA profession. –
Kendra Pitzler, Program Manager.

Ms. Pitzler went over house bill 1724 stating that the new section 8 allows disciplining authorities the right to waive education, training, experience and exam requirements for credentialed out of state applicants. The committee raised concerns about these changes affecting in-state application processing time. Ms. Pitzler advised that the credentialing office already has to recognize other licensure so it should not prolong any processing time for in-state or out-of-state applications.

In addition, house bill 1009 regarding military spouse licensure process. There is a mandatory military spouse training that all board and commission members are required to take but it does not include committee members. However, committee members can still choose to take it. The committee agreed to have the link sent to them to take the training at their own time if they choose.

9. Future Business – Ralph Pampino, LBA, BCBA, Chair

Ms. Persons-Geer asked for an update on training supervision with psychology. Ms. Pitzler informed that the department did adopt that policy where psychologist can supervise already trained LABA and CBTs, but the rule proposal does not have language where psychologist can train LABAs or CBTs.

10. Adjournment

The meeting was adjourned at 12:07p.m.

Submitted by:

Kendra Pitzler, Program Manager
Applied Behavior Analysis Advisory
Committee

Approved by:

Ralph Pampino, Chair
Applied Behavior Analysis Advisory
Committee

on file

SIGNATURE

DATE

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