What can I do with an Master of Science in Psychology with a specialization in

Applied Behavior Analysis?

Use this resource to research some of the career options associated with this degree and specialization. Please refer to the User Guide for more detailed tips on how to make the most of this resource.

About this specialization

The master’s Applied Behavior Analysis specialization combines advanced psychology course work with foundational knowledge of major competency areas in the behavior analytic field. The curriculum focuses on ethical and professional conduct; behavior analysis concepts, principles, and research methods; and applied behavior analysis techniques. Upon successful completion of this specialization, learners are prepared to identify behavioral problems through assessment; design, implement, and manage culturally appropriate interventions and treatments; perform effective behavior supervision; and bring about positive change for diverse individuals in a variety of settings.

Related job titles to explore*

The sample job titles below represent a range of options for professionals with this degree and specialization. While some titles represent entry-level positions, others may require previous experience in the field.

- Behavior analyst
- Board Certified Behavior Analyst (BCBA)
- Senior therapist
- Parent educator
- Behavior consultant
- Educational consultant
- Organizational consultant
- Behavior specialist
- Behavior coach
- ABA therapist

*These are examples intended to serve as a general guide. Because many factors determine what position an individual may attain, Capella cannot guarantee that a graduate will secure any specific job title.

Check state licensure requirements. The license to practice as a professional psychologist or counselor is regulated independently in each state or province. Learners who intend to seek licensure or certification should check the program requirements in the state or province in which they hope to practice. This specialization is not accredited by the American Psychological Association (APA) or by the Council for Accreditation of Counseling and Related Educational Programs (CACREP).
Related employment settings to explore

Professionals with this degree and specialization may work in a variety of industries and settings. The following list of employment settings is not exhaustive, but is intended to provide an introduction to the opportunities in this field.

Clinical services (nonprofit and for profit)
- Mental health treatment centers
- Autism center
- Home- and community-based services
- Residential programs (group home, foster home, assisted living, nursing home)
- Rehabilitation centers
- Family service agency

Criminal justice/corrections
- Halfway houses
- Prisons
- Probation departments

Educational services
- P–12 public schools
- P–12 private schools

Consulting
- Organizational consulting firms
- Private practice

Samples of associated skills

- Applying ethical and professional conduct principles and standards of psychology and the behavior analytic field
- Communicating concepts and principles of behavior analysis, including definitions and characteristics, using the professional standards of applied behavior analysis
- Applying techniques of behavioral measurement, including data analysis, in order to display and interpret behavioral data as it applies to the behavior analytic field
- Applying research-based theories and findings from the applied behavior analysis field to the experimental evaluation of interventions and treatment designs
- Applying behavioral assessment methods for the consideration and selection of intervention outcomes and strategies in relation to the behavior analytic field
- Implementing principles of applied behavior analysis techniques for modifying behavior, and for developing and monitoring systems support for behavior change
- Explaining the etiology, characteristics, diagnosis, assessment, and treatments of Autism Spectrum Disorder and Pervasive Developmental Disorder

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Sources for job listings
Explore specific job postings to clarify your career goals, better understand the required skills and experience, customize your job search documents, or target your job search.

APA Online Career Center
www.psyccareers.com

Psychology Jobs
www.psychologyjobs.com

Association for Behavior Analysis International
www.abainternational.org/jobs

Cambridge Center for Behavioral Studies
www.behavior.org/index.php

LinkUp
www.linkup.com

Indeed
www.indeed.com

Professional associations & industry information
Utilize professional associations to gain familiarity with the field, learn about current issues and industry trends, identify opportunities to get involved, make professional connections, and contribute your subject matter expertise. Consider joining state or local chapters to meet professionals in your region.

American Psychological Association
www.apa.org

APA Division 25 – Behavior Analysis
www.apadivisions.org/division-25/index.aspx

Autism Speaks
http://autismspeaks.org

National Autism Association
http://nationalautismassociation.org

Association for Behavior Analysis International
www.abainternational.org

Association of Professional Behavior Analysts
www.apbahome.net

Behavior Analyst Certification Board
www.bacb.com

O*Net Occupational Information Network
www.onetonline.org

Wall Street Journal Career Journal
www.careerjournal.com

Salary information

Indeed.com
www.indeed.com/salary

Salary.com
www.salary.com

JobSmart Salary Survey
www.jobstar.org

NACE Salary Calculator
www.jobsearchintelligence.com/NACE/salary-calculator-intro

Occupational Outlook Handbook
www.bls.gov
Career Center resources & services

The Career Center assists learners and alumni in developing and implementing their career management goals resulting in measurable career outcomes. Career counselors serve learners and alumni in all Capella University schools and degree programs. Services are free of charge to learners and alumni.

iGuide Career Center
This comprehensive career site contains a wealth of information on career planning, job searching, resume and CV writing, interviewing, and more.

Career Connection
Career Connection allows users to search for jobs, research employers, or apply for jobs with employers who are interested in recruiting Capella learners and alumni. In addition to the jobs posted in the Capella Network of employers, users can extend their search and find additional employment opportunities through a national network of employers.

Career counseling and job search advising
Career counselors consult with learners and alumni individually by phone and e-mail.

Resume and curriculum vitae (CV) review
Career Center staff members are trained in resume and CV critique. The online Career Center in iGuide provides sample resumes, CVs, and cover letters to help learners and alumni get started. When the draft is ready, Career Center staff work with the learner or graduate to transform the documents into effective self-marketing tools.

On-demand tutorials
Recorded interactive media pieces are created specifically for Capella's learners, alumni, and prospective learners. The interactive elements provide you opportunities to work with the material in a meaningful way and make connections to your experiences and situations. Because they are recorded, you can access them at your convenience.

Career seminars
The Career Center offers free, five-day seminars, which are facilitated by Career Counselors in the Capella courseroom and are designed for learners enrolled in all specializations.

- **Career Exploration and Planning** seminar focuses on articulating skills, interests, and work values; gaining a better understanding of target industries and professions; and creating an action plan to move toward the desired career goal.
- **Effective Job Search Strategies** seminar focuses on specific job search strategies to help you meet your short-term employment goals, as well as strategies for managing your career over the long-term.

Visit the online Career Center to learn more about services and resources available to help you reach your career goals.

See graduation rates, median student debt, and other information at www.capellaresults.com/outcomes.asp.

ACCREDITATION
Capella University is accredited by the Higher Learning Commission.