APPLIED BEHAVIOR ANALYSIS

Admission Requirements

Applicants apply for admission to the program via the Graduate School application for admission (https://gradschool.psu.edu/graduate-admissions/how-to-apply/). Requirements listed here are in addition to Graduate Council policies listed under GCAC-300 Admissions Policies (https://gradschool.psu.edu/graduate-education-policies/).

Students will be admitted on a competitive basis and must submit the online application including the following:

- a completed Graduate School online application (http://gradschool.psu.edu/prospective-students/how-to-apply/) and payment of the nonrefundable application fee
- official transcripts from all post-secondary institutions attended (http://www.gradschool.psu.edu/prospective-students/how-to-apply/new-applicants/requirements-for-graduate-admission/)
- three letters of recommendation. At least one of these recommendations should be from a professor or person who can comment on the student’s academic qualifications. Recommendations addressing the applicant’s experience with ABA is recommended, but not required.

The program prefers that applicants have at least 18 credit hours in education, psychology, ABA, or a related discipline with a cumulative grade-point average of 3.0 or above. GRE scores are not required for admission, but students who do not submit GRE scores will not be eligible for most graduate assistantships and/or scholarships. A personal interview may be required. Applications will be reviewed only after a complete application has been received. A complete application and meeting of minimal requirements does not ensure admission into this competitive program.

The language of instruction at Penn State is English. English proficiency test scores (TOEFL/IELTS) may be required for international applicants. See GCAC-305 Admission Requirements for International Students (https://gradschool.psu.edu/graduate-education-policies/gcac/gcac-300/gcac-305-admission-requirements-international-students/) for more information.

Transfer Credits

Credits earned at other institutions but not used to earn a degree may be applied toward the requirements for a graduate degree, subject to restrictions outlined in GCAC-309 Transfer Credit (http://gradschool.psu.edu/graduate-education-policies/gcac/gcac-300/transfer-credit/).

Review of classes taken at other institutions and their relationship to equivalent classes in the ABA program will be conducted by the ABA program faculty. Although classes from other institutions may be within the field of ABA, they may not directly transfer to the ABA program’s representation of classes within the Verified Course Sequences. The ABA program cannot guarantee approval by the Behavior Analysis Certification Board (BACB) of courses taken at other institutions, even those institutions that also have BACB University Approved Coursework. Relationships of the ABA program courses to the Verified Course Sequence Requirements can be obtained from the ABA program Professor in Charge.