



"Promoting and supporting the practice, research and dissemination of behavior analysis throughout the Commonwealth of Virginia."

P.O. Box 27692 Richmond, VA 23261

VABA Presents: COVID-19 Weekly Digest 4

We hope this will give you helpful information. Thank you for opting in. If you do not wish to receive this information, please email admin@virginiaaba.org. **Please do NOT unsubscribe, as that means you will not receive any emails from VABA in the future.**

A New Survey Requested By Medicaid - Please Take A Quick Second to Fill This Out!

<https://form.jotform.com/virginiaaba/quick-covid-update-for-medicaid>

You can find the latest updates on COVID-19 infections, recoveries, and deaths here (choose VA in dropdown):

<http://covid19.healthdata.org/>

Also by county:

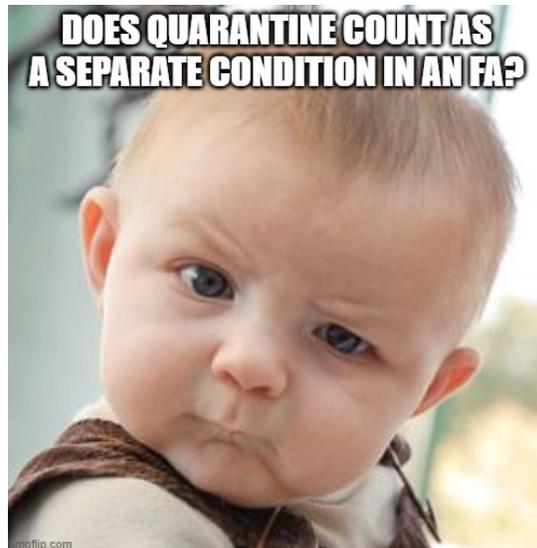
<http://www.vdh.virginia.gov/coronavirus/>

See what the governor is saying on his official Web site:

<https://www.governor.virginia.gov/>

As always, the [CDC](#) and [WHO](#) have up-to-date and reliable health information.

VABA Has a [Q&A on our Web site](#) to Answer all Your Burning Coronavirus Questions



This Week's Highlight: Getting Ready for the Future

The Governor has made several decisions affecting the near future of the Commonwealth:

1. Postponed elective surgeries until May 1
2. Postponed May 5 election to May 19
3. Postponed June 9 election to June 23
4. Decreed certain businesses to remain closed through May 8
5. Announced stay at home order through June 10

The decisions as to when to relax which restrictions are based on data and are therefore fluid. For more information about his vision for phase 1, see [this presentation](#).

Providers need to continually assess the situation and determine how to best meet the needs of clients based on the phase that we are in. ABA providers are considered essential workers, but a risk/benefit analysis is always a necessity.

Do you need PPE (Personal Protection Equipment) and can't find it? Try contacting your [Local Department of Health](#). Tell them you are a health care provider and they may be able to assist.



Working in Another State?

You may be in a situation where you are treating a client who is not currently in Virginia due to the COVID-19 crisis. Do you need to be licensed in that state?

Chances are, like VA, the other state has relaxed enforcement of licensing laws. However, you should investigate.

Here are the links to licensing agencies for nearby states:

Maryland: <https://health.maryland.gov/bopc/Pages/analysts.aspx>

DC: no license

North Carolina: no license; must practice under Psychologist

<http://www.ncpsychologyboard.org/behavioral-analysts/>

West Virginia: no license

Tennessee: <https://www.tn.gov/health/health-program-areas/health-professional-boards/applied-behavior-analyst.html>

In Case You Missed It . . .

A Message from the BACB

"We hope that you and your family are safe and healthy. Due to social distancing requirements during the COVID-19 pandemic, we will be providing the following temporary deviation for the following "with a client" requirement."



- "Experience and Fieldwork ("observation with a client") - As of March 1, and until further notice as indicated on the BACB's [COVID-19 Updates](#) page, we will temporarily waive the "observation with a client" sub-requirement for trainees who do not have access to clients and, thus, are only accruing

unrestricted hours.

- If you are a supervisor and you want your trainees to qualify for this temporary exception:
 - You (the supervisor) must complete the attestation for each month impacted.
 - You and your trainee must keep this document in your records.
- In the event of a future audit, this form must be submitted for any of the qualifying months that were impacted.
- RBT Competency Assessments (“with a client” tasks) – For all initial and renewal competency assessments received as of April 28, 2020, and until notified on the BACB’s COVID-19 Updates page, we will temporarily allow the “with a client” tasks to be assessed in a role-play situation with a client surrogate.
- If you are an assessor and you want those you are assessing to qualify for this temporary exception:
 - You (the supervisor) must complete the attestation and indicate on the Competency Assessment “role play.”
 - You and the applicant/RBT must keep this document in your records.
 - The applicant/RBT must submit this document with the competency assessment when submitting their RBT certification or renewal application.

Continue to monitor BACB correspondence and the COVID-19 Updates page for the date on which these temporary exceptions will no longer be allowed. This is only applicable for the sub-requirement stated above (and those listed on the COVID-19 Updates page) and does not apply to any other requirements.

For more information about this announcement and other BACB news related to COVID-19, please visit our COVID-19 Updates page."



Stress of Being a Provider Got you Down?

See Project Parachute and take care of your mental health!

<https://www.eleos.health/parachute>

Or if you specialize in this area, consider volunteering your time with them.

Medicaid Providers! Are you on the call?

Make sure to attend the weekly provider calls.

This call is now bi-weekly. Next call is 5/6.
[Click here](#) for previous recordings.

Other Medicaid info:

Dr. Kimsey [released a memo](#) this week regarding provider flexibilities

We hope you filled out the survey at the top of this digest. Medicaid is trying to determine if providers can easily bill using the 02 location and the GT modifier. If you can do this, it is recommended, although not yet required that you make those billing changes.