



"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 2

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.**

HOW CAN WE HELP YOU? Please fill out this quick survey to let us know.

<https://form.jotform.com/virginiaaba/covid-19-survey>

Only one survey per provider company is necessary.

This information will guide our work with the state.

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/>

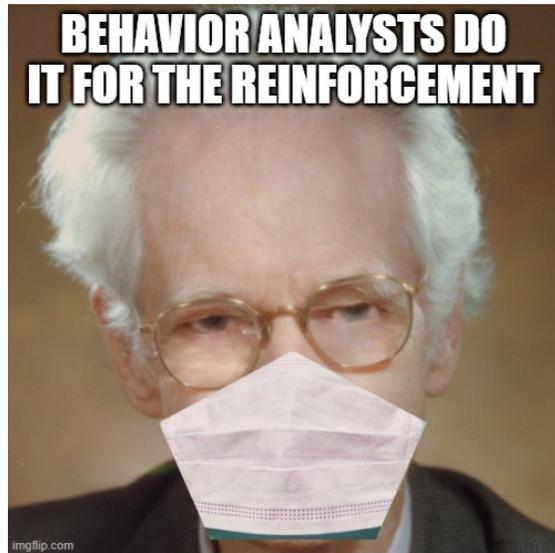
See what the governor is saying on his official Web site:

<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

BEHAVIOR ANALYSTS DO IT FOR THE REINFORCEMENT



CLARIFICATION FROM LAST WEEK FOR YOUR CLIENTS WITH PRIVATE SCHOOL PLACEMENTS

- We want to thank all of our members in both private and public schools for their ongoing attention to student needs during this unprecedented and destabilizing time for students and families. Last week, in our rush to advocate for funding sources for ABA services across all settings (including in home, in clinic, and private day settings), we realize we may have inadvertently overlooked or minimized the efforts of our members who work in and with public schools. That was not our intent, and we hope that this helps to provide some additional guidance on those issues.
- Here are some excellent resources provided by the VA Department of Education: The [VDOE Special Education and Student Services Frequently Asked Questions](#) provides some additional information and guidance. Specifically, the requirements of school divisions as it relates to providing a free and appropriate education (Question 1) and the impact of the extended closure on services to students in private day settings (Question 10). Additionally, VDOE and CSA released [Joint Guidance for Student Placements Reimbursed by the Children's Services Act](#).
- If any of the families of your clients and students have ongoing concerns about the special education process, please have them contact [a local TTAC](#), [VCU ACE](#), [VDOE](#) directly, or to follow up with a consultation with a special education advocate.

Please help our children and families to be safe!

With families sheltering in the home and children out of school, there is more of a risk of child abuse and other domestic violence, and less access to places to report (such as work or school). Please be vigilant with your families and report if you have any suspicions.

Behavior Analysts are mandated reporters in Virginia.

For more information:

<https://www.dss.virginia.gov/abuse/mr.cgi>



This Week's Highlight: Telehealth

Many of us have made the decision to move to telehealth, or a hybrid model. But it's hard to know how to best go about it. Here are some of the resources we found.

The Commonwealth of VA does not have specific regulations for telehealth, but refers back to the [regulations](#) of each individual profession. They also have [these guidelines](#).

For those who do not know, [HHS has relaxed enforcement](#) of HIPAA regulations during the pandemic. This does NOT mean that you shouldn't do everything you can to protect the personal health information for your clients, because you definitely should! It just means

that they won't be going after providers who don't sign business associate agreements (BAAs) with providers and other possible breaches. There are many approved telehealth service providers (such as doxy.me, Zoom, WebEx, and more) that will sign BAAs with providers! Please do everything possible to protect your client's information. You should not be using public facing tools such as Facebook for telehealth.

Medicaid has relaxed its rules around telehealth including rules for originating site (generally clients need to be at a health care site and not in their own homes) and billing requirements (you can use location 02 and modifier GT, but as long as you put in your notes that the service was provided by telehealth, you can bill as usual).

Many other insurers are allowing telehealth in various forms. Some are just approving parent training, some are allowing all codes. Please talk to your insurance company for specific information or drop us a line (admin@virginiaaba.org) if you need help.

Therapeutic Consultation can be provided by telehealth or telephone for the duration of the crisis, but NOT one-on-one with the individual. All other activities are covered.

The Mid-Atlantic Telehealth Center is an excellent resource that is not specific to behavior analysis - www.matrc.org.

CASP - The Council of Autism Service Providers (www.casproviders.org) has many webinars and resources on telehealth - specific resources can be found [here](#)

BHCOE - The Behavioral Health Center of Ethics (www.bhcoe.org) has also been providing webinars and resources on telehealth and business matters

APBA - The Association for Professional Behavior Analysts (www.apbahome.net) has been providing webinars and resources on telehealth and business matters

Other Webinars and Resources Include:

[Resources from CalABA on Telehealth](#)

[Behavior Babe Sample Telehealth Sessions and Resources](#)

[Telehealth CEUs from Relias](#)

[Fundamentals of Telehealth in ABA from Imbuiety](#)

[Continuing Ed from Central Reach](#)

[ABA Telehealth: Free Resources for Supporting Families Remotely](#)

[Daily BA Podcast on Telehealth](#)

It will be interesting to see how the landscape of our profession is changed due to recent events. Will telehealth be more prevalent? Will BCBAs work harder on parent training in preparation for future possible pandemics? What do you think? We'd love to hear from our members on some lessons learned - admin@virginiaaba.org

Need Help with your Small Business?

[Click here](#) for information from the Small Business Association

[Click here](#) for information from the US Chamber of Commerce

[Click here](#) for a fact sheet on small business loans during the pandemic

Medicaid Providers! Are you on the call?

Make sure to attend the weekly provider calls.

Event: COVID-19 Response – DMAS Behavioral Health Providers & Stakeholders

Event address for attendees:

<https://covaconf.webex.com/covaconf/onstage/g.php?MTID=ede481ea3f933765c40780a318bcbe65f>

Date and time:

Wednesday, April 15, 2020 11:00 am
Eastern Daylight Time (New York, GMT-04:00)

Duration:

1 hour

Event number:

618 780 936

Audio conference:

US Toll Free

+1-866-692-4530

Access code: 619 222 867

These calls continue weekly for the foreseeable future

**LAST CHANCE TO REGISTER FOR THE
CONFERENCE! DEADLINE IS 4/15.**

Register Now!

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