



STATE OF WASHINGTON

DEPARTMENT OF HEALTH

October 23, 2015

Dear Interested Party:

The Department of Health, Health Systems Quality Assurance Division (HSQA), is accepting applications to fill four professional and one public member vacancies on the Applied Behavior Analysis Advisory Committee regulating health professions. Applications will be accepted until **November 18, 2015**. HSQA is looking for public-spirited people willing to study the issues and to make recommendations in the public's best interest.

During the 2015 legislative session, Substitute Senate Bill 5488 created three new professions under Applied Behavior Analysis (ABA). Anyone practicing ABA after July 1, 2017, must hold a credential as a licensed behavior analyst, licensed assistant behavior analyst, or certified behavior technician. The bill also directs the Department of Health to establish an applied behavior analysis advisory committee.

Health profession boards, commissions, and committees operate under legislative mandate to:

- Protect the health and safety of the public.
- Promote the welfare of the state by regulating the competency and quality of health care providers under their authority.

The Governor's Office and the Department of Health seek diversity in our members. We recognize the value variety brings in understanding and serving the people of Washington State. We need candidates with diverse backgrounds and those who provide geographic representation throughout the state.

If you're interested in applying for an appointment to the Applied Behavior Analysis Advisory Committee, please see our website at <http://www.doh.wa.gov/AboutUs/ProgramsandServices/BoardsandCommissions.aspx>. Please note on the application that you are applying for the Applied Behavior Analysis Advisory Committee. We've provided a profile of the requirements to serve as an ABA advisory committee member.

If you have any questions about serving as a professional or public member, please contact me at nancy.tyson@doh.wa.gov.

Sincerely,

Nancy Tyson, Executive Director
Applied Behavior Analysis Advisory Committee
Health Systems Quality Assurance

Applied Behavior Analysis Advisory Committee

When [Substitute Senate Bill \(SSB\) 5488](#) became law, it created three behavior analysis (ABA) professions in Washington State. The three new credentials become effective July 1, 2017. The law also directs the Department of Health (department) to establish an advisory committee.

Purpose

Guidelines are developed to articulate the roles and responsibilities of advisory committee members the secretary of health selects to provide advice to the secretary.

Advisory committees differ from the governing boards and commissions by the authority granted by the legislature and not by the importance of their duties. The secretary of health relies heavily on the professional and technical expertise of advisory committee members. Their advice is always a major factor in the decision-making process.

The secretary is committed to the pursuit of the health, safety and welfare of the public, and directs advisory committee members to be ever mindful of that commitment when making recommendations that affect the public.

Advisory Committee Guidelines

The secretary, with the advice of advisory committees, operates under legislative mandate to protect the health and safety of the public, as well as to promote the welfare of the state by regulating the competency and quality of professional health care providers under the committees' jurisdiction by:

- establishing, monitoring and enforcing qualifications for licensure, certification or registration;
- ensuring consistent standards of practice;
- developing continuing competency mechanisms;
- applying consistent application of disciplinary sanctions for all health professions;
- developing rules, policies and procedures to promote the delivery of high-quality health care to the residents of the state.

Advisory Committee Appointments

The secretary may appoint members of the initial committee to staggered terms of one to four years, and thereafter all terms are for four years. No member may serve more than two consecutive terms. The advisory committee will consist of five members:

- **three licensed behavior analysts** or, for the initial members of the committee, certified by the national behavior analyst certification board as either a board-certified behavior analyst or a board-certified behavior analyst – doctoral;
- **one licensed assistant behavior analyst** or, for the initial members of the committee, certified by the national behavior analyst certification boards as a board-certified assistant behavior analyst; and
- **one member of the public** who is not a member of any other healthcare licensing board or commission and does not have a material or financial interest in the rendering of services regulated and as defined in SSB 5488. The public member may be the parent or guardian of a recipient of behavior analysis services.

It is recommended that one of the three licensed behavior analysts appointed to the committee also has an additional mental health license.