

Steps to Become a Registered Behavior Technician

RBT CERTIFICATION CHECKLIST · BACB PATHWAY

Eligibility Prerequisites

- ✓ At least 18 years old
- ✓ High school diploma or equivalent
- ✓ Pass a criminal background check

1



Complete a 40-Hour Training Course

Take a **40-hour training** course aligned with the BACB RBT Task List, covering measurement, skill acquisition, behavior reduction, documentation, and professional conduct. At least **3 hours must cover ethics**. Training may be online or in person and must be overseen by a qualified BCBA or BCaBA.

2



Pass the RBT Competency Assessment

A qualified **BCBA or BCaBA** directly observes you demonstrating RBT Task List competencies with a client (or via role-play). This is a **hands-on skills check**, not a written test. Your assessor signs off when all competencies are met.

3



Apply for RBT Certification

Submit your application to the **BACB** after passing the competency assessment. The application fee is **\$50**. Once your application is approved, you will receive an authorization-to-test email from Pearson VUE to schedule your exam.

4



Pass the RBT Exam

Take the **85-question multiple-choice exam** (75 scored + 10 pilot) at a Pearson VUE testing center. Topics include Measurement, Assessment, Skill Acquisition, Behavior Reduction, Documentation & Reporting, and Professional Conduct. Exam fee: **\$45**.

5



Maintain Ongoing Supervision

Once certified, you must work under a BCBA supervisor for at least **5% of your monthly service hours**. This includes at least **two face-to-face contacts** per month, one of which must be individual. Supervision may be in person or via videoconferencing.

Pro Tips

- Many ABA employers offer free 40-hour training as part of onboarding - ask during interviews.
- Most people complete the full process in 2-3 months.
- Check your state for additional licensing requirements (WA, NV, OR, LA have extra rules).
- RBT experience is excellent preparation for future BCBA graduate study.

TOTAL REQUIRED FEES

BACB Application: \$50 Pearson VUE Exam: \$45

\$95

UNDER \$100 ALL-IN

Source: Behavior Analyst Certification Board (BACB), bacb.com/rbt · RBT is a registered trademark of the BACB. This checklist is for informational purposes and does not replace the official RBT Handbook.