

**Jessica S. Akers, Ph.D., BCBA-D, LBA**  
Baylor University  
Department of Educational Psychology  
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**Education:**

**Post-doctoral  
Research Associate** University of Nebraska Medical Center: Munroe-Meyer Institute  
Omaha, Nebraska

**Ph.D. 2015:** Utah State University, Logan, Utah  
Disability Disciplines, Concentration: Applied Behavior Analysis

**M.A. 2011:** California State University Fresno, Fresno, California  
Psychology, Concentration: Applied Behavior Analysis

**B.A. 2009:** California State University Fresno, Fresno, California  
Psychology, Criminology Minor, Summa Cum Laude

**Academic Position**

2023—present Associate Professor  
Department of Educational Psychology, Applied Behavior Analysis  
Program  
Baylor University, Waco, Texas

2017—2023 Assistant Professor  
Department of Educational Psychology, Applied Behavior Analysis  
Program  
Baylor University, Waco, Texas

**Areas of Specialization**

Applied behavior analysis (ABA), autism, developmental disabilities, social and play skills, challenging behavior, single-case research design

**Peer-Reviewed Publications:**

35. Cosottile, D. W., Exline, E., Akers, J. S., Gerow, S., & Swensson, R. (2023). Functional Communication Training without the Removal of a Tangible Item. *Clinical Case Studies*. <https://doi.org/10.1177/15346501231221284>

34. Kirkpatrick, M., O’Guinn, N., Carrillo Vega, R., **Akers, J. S.**, Davis, T. N., & Avery, S. (2023). Systematic review of video activity schedules to teach autistic people. *Journal of Behavioral Education*. DOI: 10.1007/s10864-023-09535-3

33. O'Guinn, K. N., **Akers, J. S.**, & Gerencser, K. (2023). Interventions targeting interactive play in individuals with autism: A systematic review. *Review Journal of Autism and Developmental Disorders*. <https://doi.org/10.1007/s40489-023-00392-4>
32. Avery, S. K., **Akers, J. S.**, Gerow, S. & Exline, E. (2023). The use of caregiver-implemented visual supports for individuals with developmental disabilities: A systematic literature review. *Review Journal of Autism and Developmental Disorders*. <https://doi.org/10.1007/s40489-023-00390-6>
31. Davis, T. N., **Akers, J. S.**, Exline, E., Avery, S. K., & Wicker, M. (2023). Reinforcement schedule thinning following functional communication training: A systematic review. Advance online publication. *Behavioral Interventions*, 1 – 26. <https://doi.org/10.1002/bin.1959>
30. Avery, S., Gerow, S., **Akers, J. S.**, Rivera, G., & Radhakrishnan, S. (2022). The effect of immediate help with demand completion on escape-maintained challenging behavior. *Behavioral Development*, 27(1), 53-66. <https://doi.org/10.1037/dbd0000113>
29. **Akers, J. S.**, Davis, T. N., McGinnis, K., & Swensson, R. M. (2022). Effectiveness of remote delayed performance feedback on accurate implementation of caregiver coaching. *Journal of Behavioral Education*, 1-24. <https://doi.org/10.1007/s10864-022-09487-0>
28. Canestaro, V. M., **Akers, J. S.**, & O'Guinn, N. (2021). Promoting reciprocal conversations in children with autism using text-message prompting. *Behavioral Interventions*, 36(4), 745-755. <https://doi.org/10.1002/bin.1822>
27. Deel, N. M., Brodhead, M. T., **Akers, J. S.** & White, A. N. (2021). Teaching choice-making within activity schedules to children with autism. *Behavioral Interventions*, 36(4), 731-744. <https://doi.org/10.1002/bin.1816>
26. Padilla-Mainor, K. L. & **Akers, J. S.** (2021). Content validity for the Verbal Behavior Milestones Assessment and Placement Program. *Journal of Autism and Developmental Disorders*, 51, 4054-4066. <https://doi.org/10.1007/s10803-020-04864-y>
25. Gerow, S., Radhakrishnan, S., **Akers, J. S.**, McGinnis, K., & Swensson, R. (2021). Telehealth parent coaching to improve daily living skills for children with ASD. *Journal of Applied Behavior Analysis*, 54(2), 566-581. <https://doi.org/10.1002/jaba.813>
24. Avery, S. & **Akers, J. S.**, (2021). The use of demand assessments: A brief review and practical guide. *Behavior Analysis in Practice*, 14, 410-421. <https://doi.org/10.1007/s40617-020-00542-8>
23. Kirkpatrick, M., Rivera, G. & **Akers, J. S.** (2020). Systematic review of behavioral interventions using digital technology to reduce problem behavior in the classroom. *Journal of Behavioral Education*, 31, 69-93. <https://doi.org/10.1007/s10864-020-09406-1>

22. Kirkpatrick, M., Rehfeld, D. M., **Akers, J. S.**, Rivera, G. & Sulak, T. N. (2020). Using behavioral skills training with preservice teachers in the university classroom. *Behavioral Interventions*, 36(1), 145-158. <https://doi.org/10.1002/bin.1764>
21. Kirkpatrick, M., Rivera, G. & **Akers, J. S.** (2020). Use of behavioral skills training with teachers: A systematic review. *Journal of Behavioral Education*, 28(3), 344-361. <https://doi.org/10.1007/s10864-019-09322-z>
20. **Akers, J. S.**, Davis, T. N., Gerow, S. & Avery, S. (2020). Decreasing motor stereotypy in individuals with autism spectrum disorder: A systematic review. *Research in Autism Spectrum Disorders*, 77. <https://doi.org/10.1016/j.rasd.2020.101611>
19. Owen, T. M., Fisher, W. W., **Akers, J. S.**, Sullivan, W., Falcomata, T. S., Greer, B. D., Roane, H. S., & Zangrillo, A. N. (2020). Treating destructive behavior reinforced by increased caregiver compliance with the participant's mands. *Journal of Applied Behavior Analysis*, 53(3), 1494-1513. <https://doi.org/10.1002/jaba.674>
18. Gerow, S., Rivera, G., **Akers, J. S.**, Kirkpatrick, M., Radhakrishnan, S. (2019). Parent-implemented treatment for automatically maintained stereotypy. *Behavior Interventions*, 34(4), 466-474. <https://doi.org/10.1002/bin.1689>
17. Gerencser, K., R., **Akers, J. S.**, Becerra, L. A., Higbee, T. S., & Sellers, T. P. (2019). A review of asynchronous trainings for the implementation of behavior analytic assessments and interventions. *The Journal of Behavioral Education*, 29(1), 122-152. <https://doi.org/10.1007/s10864-019-09332-x>
16. Retzlaff, B. J., Fisher, W. W., **Akers, J. S.**, & Greer, B. D. (2019). A translational evaluation of potential iatrogenic effects of single and combined contingencies during functional analysis. *Journal of Applied Behavior Analysis*, 53(1), 67-81. <https://doi.org/10.1002/jaba.595>
15. Fisher, W. W., Retzlaff, B. J., **Akers, J. S.**, DeSouza, A. A., Kaminski, A. J., & Machado, M. (2019). Establishing initial auditory-visual conditional discriminations and emergence of initial tacts in young children with autism spectrum disorder. *Journal of Applied Behavior Analysis*, 52(4), 1089-1106. <https://doi.org/10.1002/jaba.586>
14. Simmons, C. A., **Akers, J. S.**, & Fisher, W. W., (2019). Functional analysis and treatment of covert food stealing in an outpatient setting. *Behavioral Development*, 24(1), 42-57. <http://dx.doi.org/10.1037/bdb0000086>
13. **Akers, J. S.**, Retzlaff, B. J., Fisher, W. W., Greer, B. D., Kaminski, A. K., & DeSouza, A. A., (2018). An evaluation of conditional manding using a four-component multiple schedule. *The Analysis of Verbal Behavior*, 35(1), 94-102. <https://doi.org/10.1007/s40616-018-0099-9>
12. **Akers, J. S.**, Higbee, T. S., Pollard, J. S., & Reinert, K. S., (2018). Sibling-implemented script fading to promote play-based statements in children with autism. *Behavior Analysis in Practice*, 11(4), 395-399. <https://doi.org/10.1007/s40617-018-0257-5>

11. **Akers, J. S.**, Higbee, T. S., Gerencser, K. R., & Pellegrino, A. J., (2018). An evaluation of group activity schedules to promote social play in children with autism. *Journal of Applied Behavior Analysis*, 51(3), 553-570. <https://doi.org/10.1002/jaba.474>
10. Kaminski, A. J., Fisher, W. W., Greer, B. D. & **Akers, J. S.** (2018). Increasing sharing in children with autism spectrum disorder using automated discriminative stimuli. *Learning and Motivation*, 62, 41-50. <https://doi.org/10.1016/j.lmot.2017.02.004>
9. Briggs, A. M., **Akers, J. S.**, Greer, B. D., Fisher, W. W. & Retzlaff, B. J. (2018). Systematic changes in preference for schedule-thinning arrangements as a function of relative reinforcement density. *Behavior Modification*, 42(4), 472-497. <https://doi.org/10.1177/0145445517742883>
8. DeSouza, A. A., **Akers, J. S.**, & Fisher, W. W., (2017). Empirical application of Skinner's Verbal Behavior to interventions for children with autism: A review. *The Analysis of Verbal Behavior*, 33(2), 229-259. <https://doi.org/10.1007/s40616-017-0093-7>
7. Gerencser, K. R., Higbee, T. S., **Akers, J. S.**, & Contreras, B. P., (2017). Evaluation of interactive computerized training to teach parents to implement photographic activity schedules with children with autism spectrum disorder. *Journal of Applied Behavior Analysis*, 50(3), 567-581. <https://doi.org/10.1002/jaba.386>
6. **Akers, J. S.**, Higbee, T. S., Pollard, J. S., Pellegrino, A. J., & Gerencser, K. R. (2016). An evaluation of photographic activity schedules to increase independent playground skills in young children with autism. *Journal of Applied Behavior Analysis*, 49(4), 954-959. <https://doi.org/10.1002/jaba.327>
5. Pyle, D., Pyle, N., Lignugaris-Kraft, B., Duran, L., & **Akers, J.** (2016). Academic effects of peer-mediated interventions for English language learners: A research synthesis. *Review of Educational Research*, 87(1), 103-133. <https://doi.org/10.3102/0034654316653663>
4. **Akers, J. S.**, Pyle, N., Higbee, T. S., Pyle, D., & Gerencser K. R., (2016). A synthesis of script fading effects with individuals with autism spectrum disorder: A 20-year review. *Review Journal of Autism and Developmental Disorders*, 3(1), 1-17. <https://doi.org/10.1007/s40489-015-0062-9>
3. Brodhead, M. T., Higbee, Gerencser, K. R., & **Akers, J. S.** (2016). The use of a discrimination training procedure to teach mand variability to children with autism. *Journal of Applied Behavior Analysis*, 49(1), 34-48. <https://doi.org/10.1002/jaba.280>
2. Pollard, J. S., Higbee, T. S., **Akers, J. S.**, & Brodhead, M. T. (2014). An evaluation of interactive computer training to teach instructors to implement discrete trials with children with autism. *Journal of Applied Behavior Analysis*, 47(4), 765-776. <https://doi.org/10.1002/jaba.152>
1. Brodhead, M. T., Higbee, T. S., Pollard, J. S., **Akers, J. S.**, & Gerencser, K. R. (2014). The use of linked activity schedules to teach children with autism to play hide-and-seek. *Journal of Applied Behavior Analysis*, 47(3), 645-650. <https://doi.org/10.1002/jaba.145>

### **Publications (Under Review)**

Swafford, L. B., Akers, J. S., Swensson, R. M., & Carlson, J. L. (2023). A Systematic Review of Caregiver-Mediated Interventions for Autistic Adolescents: Implications for Social Validity" [Manuscript submitted for publication]. Department of Educational Psychology, Baylor University.

Swensson, R.M., Akers, J.S., Austin, M., Liu, R. & Gerow, S. (2022). Teaching children with autism spectrum disorder to mand for answers to questions via telehealth: A caregiver implementation. [Manuscript submitted for publication]. Department of Educational Psychology, Baylor University.

Avery, S. K., Gerow, S., Akers, J. S., & Exline, E. (2023). The use of caregiver-implemented visual schedules to teach leisure activities for children with developmental disabilities. [Manuscript submitted for publication]. Department of Educational Psychology, Baylor University.

### **Nonpeer-Reviewed Publications:**

Akers, J. S. (2021, June 28). What's your brother saying? *Verbal Behavior Matters, Behavior Science Dissemination*. <https://science.abainternational.org/2021/06/28/whats-your-brother-saying/>

### **Book**

Davis, T. N. & Akers, J. S. (2022). *A behavior analyst's guide to supervising fieldwork*. Springer International Publishing.

### **Book Chapters:**

Padilla-Mainor, K. Akers, J. S., & Kirkpatrick, M. (2020). Coordinating ABA Services. In M. McClain, J. Shahidulla & K. Mezher (Ed.), *Interprofessional Care Coordination for Pediatric Autism Spectrum Disorder: Translating Research into Practice*.

Akers, J. S., Davis, T. N., & Gerow, S., (2020). Self-Injurious Behavior, Rituals, and Stereotypies in Dual Diagnosis. In J. Matson (Ed.), *Handbook of Dual Diagnosis: Assessment, Diagnosis, and Treatment in Persons with Intellectual Disabilities*.

Akers, J. S., Davis, T. N., Gerow, S., Hodges, A., & Weston, R. (2019). Sensory and repetitive behaviors. In J. Matson (Ed.), *Handbook of Intellectual Disabilities: Integrating Theory, Research and Practice*.

Brodhead, M. T., Rispoli, M. J., Wendt, O., Akers, J. S., Gerencser, K. R., & Kim, S. Y. (2017). Treatment of core symptoms of autism spectrum disorder. In J. Matson (Ed.), *Handbook of autism treatments*. New York, NY: Springer.

## **Peer-Reviewed Presentations**

### **Invited Presentations**

Akers J. S., (2022, April). *Strategies to promote play and leisure skills in individuals with developmental disabilities*. [Oral presentation]. Texas Association of Behavior Analysis, Dallas, TX.

Akers J. S., (2022, April). *Collaborating with siblings in practice*. [Oral presentation, Workshop]. Texas Association of Behavior Analysis, Dallas, TX.

Akers, J. S., (2020, April). *Recent research on promoting peer play in children with autism* [Oral presentation]. Midwestern Conference on Professional Psychology, Mankato, MN.

Akers, J. S. (2016, November). *Current research in play and language skills for young children with autism* [Oral presentation]. California State University, Fresno Applied Behavior Analysis Conference, Fresno, CA.

Akers, J. S. (2015, June). *Current research in play and language skills for young children with autism* [Oral presentation]. Utah Association of Behavior Analysis, Salt Lake City, UT.

### **National/International Conference Presentations:**

**Akers, J. S.,** Davis, T. D., Swensson, R. M., O'Guinn, N. (2022, May 27-31). *Effectiveness of Immediate versus delayed performance feedback on accurate implementation of an evidence-based intervention*. ABAI 2022 Convention, Boston, MA, United States.

Swensson, R.M., **Akers, J.S.,** Davis, T.N. & McGinnis, K. (2022, May) *Evaluation of the Effectiveness of Remote Performance Feedback on Accurate Implementation of Parent Coaching*. Symposium Presentation at Association of Behavior Analysis International 48<sup>th</sup> Annual Convention, Boston, MA. <https://www.abainternational.org/events/annual-2022.aspx>

Canestaro, V. & **Akers, J. S.** (2019, May). *Teaching children with autism spectrum disorder to engage in reciprocal conversations using text-message prompting* [Oral presentation]. Association for Behavior Analysis International, Chicago, IL.

Kirkpatrick, M., Rehfeld, D. M., **Akers, J. S.,** Rivera, G., & Sulak, T. N. (2019, May). *Evaluating the effects of behavioral skills training with pre-service teachers* [Oral presentation]. Association for Behavior Analysis International, Chicago, IL.

**Akers, J. S.,** Briggs, A. M., Greer, B. D., Fisher, W. W., & Retzlaff, B. J., (2018, May). *Systematic changes in preference for schedule-thinning arrangements as a function of relative reinforcement density* [Oral presentation]. Association of Behavior Analysis, San Diego, CA.

**Akers, J. S.,** Fisher, W. W., Kaminski, A. J., Greer, B. D., DeSouza, A., & Retzlaff, B. J., (2017, May). *An evaluation of conditional manding using a four-component multiple schedule* [Oral presentation]. Association of Behavior Analysis, Denver, Co.

**Akers, J. S.,** Higbee, T. S., Gerencser, K. R., & Pellegrino, A. J., (2016, May). *An evaluation of group activity schedules to train children with autism to play hide-and-seek with typically developing peers* [Oral presentation]. Association of Behavior Analysis, Chicago, IL.

**Akers, J. S.,** Higbee, T. S., Reinert, K. S., & Pollard, J. S. (2015, May). *Sibling-implemented script fading to promote play-based statements in children with autism* [Oral presentation] Association of Behavior Analysis, San Antonio, TX.

**Akers, J. S.,** Higbee, T. S., Pollard, J. S., Gerencser, K. R., & Pellegrino, A. J., (2015, May). *An evaluation of photographic activity schedules to increase independent playground skills in young children with autism* [Oral presentation]. Association of Behavior Analysis, San Antonio, TX.

Pollard, J. S., Higbee, T. S., **Akers, J. S.,** & Brodhead, M. T. (2013, May). *An evaluation of an interactive computer training to teach instructors to implement discrete trials with children with autism* [Oral presentation]. Association of Behavior Analysis, Minneapolis, MN.

### **State/Regional Conference Presentations**

Akers, J. S., & Davis, T. N. (2023, March). *Developing and Implementing a Competency-Based Approach to Supervision* [Oral Presentation, Workshop]. California Association for Behavior Analysis, Long Beach, CA.

Davis, T. N. & Akers, J. S. (2023, April). *Developing and Implementing a Competency-Based Approach to Supervision* [Oral Presentation, Workshop]. Texas Association for Behavior Analysis, San Antonio, TX.

Davis, T. N., **Akers, J. S.,** & Gerow, S. (2019, March). *Evidence-Based Treatments to Reduce Stereotypy* [Oral presentation]. Texas Association for Behavior Specialists Annual Conference, Round Rock, TX.

Kirkpatrick, M., Rehfeld, D. M., **Akers, J. S.,** Rivera, G., & Sulak, T. N. (2019, March). *Evaluating the effects of behavioral skills training with pre-service teachers* [Oral presentation]. Texas Association of Behavior Specialist Conference, Round Rock, TX.

**Akers, J. S.,** Higbee, T. S., Gerencser, K. R., & Pellegrino, A. J., (2016, February). *An evaluation of group activity schedules to train children with autism to play hide-and-seek with typically developing peers* [Oral presentation]. California Association of Behavior Analysis, San Jose, CA.

**Akers, J. S.,** Higbee, T. S., Reinert, K. S., & Pollard, J. S. (2015, February). *Sibling-implemented script fading to promote play-based statements in children with autism* [Oral presentation]. California Association of Behavior Analysis, San Diego, CA.

**Akers, J. S.,** Higbee, T. S., Pollard, J. S., Gerencser, K. R., & Pellegrino, A. J., (2015, March). *An evaluation of photographic activity schedules to increase independent playground skills in young children with autism* [Oral presentation]. California Association of Behavior Analysis, San Diego, CA.

Pollard, J.S., Higbee, T.S., **Akers, J.S.**, & Brodhead, M.T. (2013, March). *An evaluation of an interactive computer training to teach instructors to implement discrete trials with children with autism* [Oral presentation]. Utah Valley University Autism Conference, Orem, UT.

**Akers, J. S.**, Gerencser, K., & Higbee, T.S. (2013, February). *Understanding and Managing Challenging Behavior* [Oral presentation]. Utah Early Childhood Conference, Provo, UT.

Pollard, J., Brodhead, M., **Akers, J. S.**, Hartzheim, D., & Higbee, T. S. (2012, February). *Ethical considerations for clinical applied behavior analysts* [Workshop presentation]. California Association for Behavior Analysis, Garden Grove, CA.

Brodhead, M, **Akers, J. S.**, Higbee, T. S. (2012, June) *Considering Ethical Behavior in educational settings: Part 1.* [Workshop presentation]. Effective Practices Conference, Logan, UT.

Brodhead, M, **Akers, J. S.**, Higbee, T. S. (2012, June) *Considering Ethical Behavior in educational settings: Part 2.* [Workshop presentation]. Effective Practices Conference, Logan, UT.

**Akers, J. S.**, Brodhead, M, & Higbee, T.S. (2012, June). *Using activity schedules to promote independence in early learners* [Workshop presentation]. Effective Practices Conference, Logan, UT.

### **Poster Presentations**

Swensson, R., **Akers, J.S.**, Austin, M., Liu, R. Gerow, S. (2023). *Teaching Children with Autism Spectrum Disorder to Mand for Answers to Questions via Telehealth: A Caregiver Implementation.* Poster presentation at Association of Behavior Analysis International 49<sup>th</sup> Annual Convention, Denver, CO, United States

Swensson, R., **Akers, J.S.**, Swafford, L.B. & Austin, M. (2023). *Using Equivalence-Based Instruction to Teach New Skills to Individuals with ASD and IDD: A Systematic Review.* Poster presentation at Texas Association for Behavioral Analysis Regional Conference. San Antonio, TX, April 27<sup>th</sup>-April 29<sup>th</sup>, 2023.

**Akers, J. S.**, Davis, T. N., McGinnis, K. & Swensson, R. (2022). *Effectiveness of Remote Performance Feedback on Accurate Implementation of Caregiver Coaching.* Poster presentation at Association for Behavioral Analysis International Conference. Dublin, IE.

Avery, S., **Akers, J. S.**, Gerow, S., & Exline, E. (2022, May 28-30). *The Use of Caregiver Implemented Visual Schedules to Teach Leisure Activities for Children with Developmental Disabilities* [Poster presentation]. Association of Behavior Analysis International 48<sup>th</sup> Annual Convention, Boston, MA, United States. <https://www.abainternational.org/events/annual-2022.aspx>

Avery, S., **Akers, J. S.**, Gerow, S., & Exline, E. (2022, April 21-24). *The Use of Caregiver-Implemented Visual Schedules to Teach Leisure Activities for Children with Developmental*

*Disabilities* [Poster presentation]. Texas Association of Applied Behavior Analysis 37<sup>th</sup> Annual Regional Conference, Dallas, TX, United States. <https://txaba.org/conferences/2022/>

Swensson, R., **Akers, J.S.**, Liu, R. & Austin, M. (2022) *Teaching Children with Autism Spectrum Disorder to Mand for Answers to Questions via Telehealth: A Caregiver Implementation*. Poster presentation at Texas Association for Behavioral Analysis Regional Conference. Dallas, TX.

O’Guinn, N., **Akers, J. S.**, & Gerencser, K., (2021, May). *Interventions Targeting Interactive Play in Individuals with Autism: A Systematic Review* [Poster presentation]. Association for Behavior Analysis, Virtual Conference.

Kirkpatrick, M., **Akers, J. S.**, & Swensson, R. (2021, May). *Systematic Review of Video Activity Schedules to Teach Individuals with Autism Spectrum Disorder* [Poster presentation]. Association for Behavior Analysis, Virtual Conference.

Avery, S. & **Akers, J. S.** (2021, May). *The Use of Demand Assessments: A Brief Review and Practical Guide* [Poster presentation]. Association for Behavior Analysis, Virtual Conference.

Padilla-Mainor, K. & **Akers, J. S.** (2021, May). *Content Validity Evidence for the Verbal Behavior Milestones Assessment and Placement Program* [Poster presentation]. Association for Behavior Analysis, Virtual Conference.

Kirkpatrick, M., **Akers, J. S.**, Davis, T. N., O’Guinn, N., & Avery, S. (2021, February). *Systematic review of video activity schedules to teach individuals with ASD* [Poster presentation]. Texas Association for Behavior Analysis, Virtual Conference.

O’Guinn, N. & **Akers, J. S.** (2021, February). *Interventions targeting interactive play in individuals with autism: A systematic review* [Poster presentation]. Texas Association of Applied Behavior Analysis 36<sup>th</sup> Annual Regional Conference, Virtual Conference.

Avery, S., & **Akers, J. S.** (2021, February 11–14). *The use of demand assessments: A brief review and practical guide* [Poster presentation]. Texas Association of Applied Behavior Analysis 36<sup>th</sup> Annual Regional Conference, Virtual Conference.

Swensson, R. & **Akers, J. S.**, (2020, May). *A systematic review of mand training techniques for children with autism* [Poster presentation]. Association for Behavior Analysis, Virtual Conference.

Swensson, R. & **Akers, J. S.**, (2020, March). *A systematic review of mand training techniques for children with autism* [Poster presentation]. Texas Association for Behavior Analysis, Virtual Conference.

O’Guinn, K. N. & **Akers, J. S.** (2020, March). *Teaching Negotiation Skills During Play to Children with Autism Spectrum Disorders* [Poster presentation]. Texas Association for Behavior Analysis, Virtual Conference.

**Akers, J. S.,** Busby, M., & O'Guinn, K. N. (2020, February). *A further evaluation of scripts and systematic fading to increase play-based comments in children with autism when playing with peers* [Poster presentation]. Association for Behavior Analysis International Autism Conference, Miami, FL.

Kirkpatrick, M., Rehfeld, D. M., **Akers, J. S.,** Rivera, G., & Sulak, T. N. (2019, March). *Evaluating the effects of behavioral skills training with pre-service teachers* [Poster presentation]. Texas Association for Behavior Analysis, Fort Worth, TX

**Akers, J. S.,** & Davis, T. N., Gerow, S. (2019, May). *Decreasing stereotypy in children with autism: A systematic review* [Poster presentation]. Association of Behavior Analysis International, Chicago, IL.

**Akers, J. S.,** & Davis, T. N. (2019, February). *Decreasing stereotypy in children with autism: A systematic review* [Poster presentation]. California Association of Behavior Analysis, Long Beach, CA.

Canestaro, V. & **Akers, J. S.** (2018, March). *An evaluation of interventions targeting reciprocal conversations for children with Autism Spectrum Disorder: A review of the literature* [Poster presentation]. Texas Association for Behavior Analysis, Houston, TX.

**Akers, J. S.,** Fisher, W. W., Kaminski, A. K., De Souza, A., & Retlaff, B. J. (2017, January). *An evaluation of conditional manding using a four-component multiple schedule* [Poster presentation]. Association for Behavior Analysis International Autism Conference, San Juan, Puerto Rico.

Brodhead, M, Higbee, T. S., Pollard, J., & **Akers, J. S.** (2012, June) *The use of activity schedules to promote social and on-task behaviors in children with autism during a game of hide and seek* [Poster presentation]. Utah Association of Behavior Analysis, Logan, UT.

**Akers, J. S.** & Adams, A. (2012, February). *Using script-fading to increase play-based language between children with autism and their typically developing siblings* [Poster presentation]. California Association of Behavior Analysis, Garden Grove, CA.

**Akers, J. S.** & Adams, A. (2011, May). *Using script-fading to increase play-based language between children with autism and their typically developing siblings* [Poster presentation]. Association of Behavior Analysis, Seattle, WA.

**Akers, J. S.** & Adams, A. (2011, November). *Using script-fading to increase play-based language between children with autism and their typically developing siblings* [Poster presentation]. Nevada Association of Behavior Analysis, Reno, NV.

## Teaching

## **Baylor University**

### *Advanced Concepts in Applied Behavior Analysis (EDP 6355)*

Role: Instructor of Record

Semester: Spring 2021, Spring 2024

Description of Course: This is a doctoral level course in the ABA sequence. This course covers the seminal behavioral literature related to the principles of behavior analysis.

### *Advanced Single-Case Research (EDP 6354)*

Role: Instructor of Record

Semester: Spring 2018, Spring 2022

Description of Course: This is a doctoral level course in the ABA sequence. This course prepares students to conduct single case research using advanced methodology and designs.

### *Concepts and Principles of Applied Behavior Analysis (EDP 5302)*

Role: Instructor of Record

Semester: Summer 2020, Summer 2021

Description of Course: This is a master's level course in the ABA sequence. This course focuses on the principles of behavior analysis. This course is required for students seeking certification from the Behavior Analyst Certification Board.

### *Developmental Disabilities (EDP 3361)*

Role: Instructor of Record

Semester: Spring 2018

Description of Course: This is an undergraduate course in the special education sequence. This course provides a holistic view of the lives of individuals with developmental disabilities.

### *Ethics (EDP 5354)*

Role: Instructor of Record

Semester: Summer 2020, Summer 2021, Summer 2022

Description of Course: This is a master's level course in the ABA course sequence. This course focuses on ethical and professional conduct in the field of behavior analysis. This course is required for students seeking certification from the Behavior Analyst Certification Board.

### *Ethics (EDP 5V95)*

Role: Instructor of Record

Semester: Fall 2017, Fall 2018

Description of Course: This is a master's level course in the ABA course sequence. This course focuses on ethical and professional conduct in the field of behavior analysis. This course is required for students seeking certification from the Behavior Analyst Certification Board.

### *Philosophy in Applied Behavior Analysis (EDP 5301)*

Role: Instructor of Record

Semester: Spring 2020, Spring 2021

Description of Course: This is a master's level course in the ABA sequence. This course focuses on the philosophical foundations of behavior analysis. This course is required for students seeking certification from the Behavior Analyst Certification Board.

*Practicum in Applied Behavior Analysis (EDP 5V98)*

Role: Instructor of Record

Semester: Fall 2018, Spring 2019, Fall 2021, Summer 2022, Fall 2022

Description of Course: This is a master's level course in the ABA sequence. This course provides students with in-vivo experiential training to prepare them for employment. Students receive supervision required for students seeking certification from the Behavior Analyst Certification Board.

*Teaching Individuals with Autism and Developmental Disabilities (EDP 5358)*

Role: Instructor of Record

Semester: Fall 2019, Fall 2020, Fall 2021, Fall 2022, Fall 2023

Description of Course: This is a master's level course in the ABA sequence. This course focuses on evidence-based teaching strategies within the field of behavior analysis. This course is required for students seeking certification from the Behavior Analyst Certification Board.

*Verbal Behavior (EDP 6363)*

Role: Instructor of Record

Semester: Spring 2020

Description of Course: This is a doctoral level course in the ABA sequence. This course covers the seminal behavioral literature related to human language.

**Utah State University**

*Applied Behavior Analysis I: Principles, Assessment, and Analysis (SPED 5010)*

Role: Instructor of Record (2013), Teaching Assistant (2011)

Instructional format: Synchronous, distance education

Semester: Fall 2013, Fall 2011

Description of Course: This is an undergraduate course for students accepted into the special education program. In this course, students learn to collect data, make data-based decisions, analyze data, and apply principles of behavior management and instruction with children with disabilities.

*Concepts and Principles of Behavior Analysis in Education (SPED 6710)*

Role: Teaching assistant

Instructional format: synchronous, distance education

Semester: Spring 2012

Description of Course: This is a master's level course in the ABA course sequence. This course is designed to expand the student's understanding of the theoretical and conceptual framework and experimental research of behavior analysis.

*Educational Applications of Behavior Analysis I (SPED 6720)*

Role: Teaching assistant

Instructional format: Synchronous, distance education

Semester: Fall 2012

Description of Course: This is a master's level course in the ABA course sequence. This course is designed to expand student's understanding and application of behavior analysis.

*Practicum: Working with Young Children with Autism (SPED 5840)*

Role: Instructor of record

Semester: Spring 2013

Description of Course: This is an undergraduate practicum course designed to provide students with the opportunity to practice ABA strategies with children with autism.

### **Invited Guest Lectures**

Bagby, J., **Akers, J. S.**, & O'Guinn, K. N. (2019). *Supporting graduate students and adjunct instructors*. Seminar for Excellence in Teaching, Baylor University, Waco, TX.

**Akers, J. S.**, (2016) *Social Skills: Children with Autism Spectrum Disorders*. Guest lecture for Autism course, University of Nebraska Medical Center, Omaha, NE.

**Akers, J. S.** (2014). *Fragile X-syndrome: Growing up with siblings with disabilities*. Guest lecture for Young Children with Disabilities: Characteristics and Services, Utah State University, Logan, UT.

**Akers, J. S.** & Higbee, T. S. (2014). *Introduction to Autism and Applied Behavior Analysis*. Guest lecture for School Psychology students and faculty, Utah State University, Logan, UT.

**Akers, J. S.** & Higbee, T. S. (2014). *Using Environmental Supports with Children with Disabilities*. Guest lecture for Early Childhood course, Utah State University, Logan, UT.

**Akers, J. S.**, Contreras, B., Higbee, T. S. (2014). *Using activity schedules and script fading with children with autism*. Guest lecture for Early Childhood Alternative Teacher Preparation Program course via Adobe Connect online platform, Utah State University, Logan, UT.

Hartzheim, D., **Akers, J. S.**, & Higbee, T.S. (2012). *Understanding and Managing Challenging Behavior*. Guest lecture for Speech and Language Pathology students and faculty, Utah State University, Logan, UT.

Kelley, K.N., **Akers, J. S.** & Higbee, T.S. (2011). *Using reinforcement in teaching*. Guest lecture for Speech and Language Pathology students and faculty, Utah State University, Logan, UT.

Kelley, K.N., **Akers, J. S.**, & Higbee, T.S. (2011). *Functions of behavior*. Guest lecture for Speech and Language Pathology students and faculty, Utah State University, Logan, UT.

### **Grants**

## Grant Applications

### Funded Grants

#### *Externally Funded*

Project PEACE: Preparing Effective behavior Analysts with Challenging behavior Expertise

Principal Investigator: Dr. Tonya Davis

Co-Principal Investigators: Drs. Jessica Akers & Tracey Sulak

Competition: *FY2023 Personnel Development to Improve Services and Results for Children with Disabilities--Preparation of Related Services Personnel Serving Children with Disabilities Who Have High-Intensity Needs*

Funding Organization: Office of Special Education Programs

Budget: \$1,165,413

Sibling SUCCESS: Supporting Unique Collaborative Care to Encourage Shared Success.

Principal Investigator: Dr. Jessica Akers

Co-Principal Investigator: Dr. Tonya Davis

Competition: Autism Grant Program, Innovative ASD Treatment Model Category

Funding Organization: Texas Higher Education Coordinating Board

Budget: \$893,410

Self-Instructed Video Activity Schedules to Support Academic Learning for Students with ASD During Small Group Activities

Principal Investigator: Marie Kirkpatrick

Co-Principal Investigator: Dr. Jessica Akers

Competition: Graduate Research Grant Competition

Funding Organization: Organization for Autism Research

Budget: \$1,730

Caregiver coaching project: Providing support for parents of children with ASD in Texas

Principal Investigator: Dr. Stephanie Gerow

Co-Principal Investigator: Dr. Tonya Davis

Key Personnel: Dr. Jessica Akers

Competition: Autism Grant Program, Parent-Directed Treatment

Funding Organization: Texas Higher Education Coordinating Board

Budget: \$369,699

Parent training via tele-health technology for families of children with ASD in rural areas-Expansion

Principal Investigator: Dr. Stephanie Gerow

Co-Principal Investigator: Dr. Tonya Davis

Key Personnel: Drs. Jessica Akers and Kristen Padilla-Mainor

Competition: Autism Grant Program, Parent-Directed Treatment

Funding Organization: Texas Higher Education Coordinating Board

Updated: January 21, 2024

Budget: \$278,456

Parent training via tele-health technology for families of children with ASD in rural areas

Principal Investigator: Dr. Stephanie Gerow

Co-Principal Investigator: Dr. Tonya Davis

Key Personnel: Drs. Jessica Akers and Kristen Padilla-Mainor

Competition: Autism Grant Program, Parent-Directed Treatment

Funding Organization: Texas Higher Education Coordinating Board

Budget: \$212,409

### ***Internally Funded***

Teaching Aspiring Behavior Analysts to Deliver Compassionate Collaborative Care

Principal Investigator: Dr. Tonya Davis

Co-Principal Investigator: Dr. Jessica Akers

Competition: Teaching Exploration Grant

Funding Organization: Baylor University Academy for Teaching and Learning

Budget: \$9,933.33

Family FOCUS: Future Oriented Collaboration and United Support

Principal Investigator: Dr. Jessica Akers

Co-principal Investigator: Dr. Tonya Davis

Competition: ONE-URC Program

Funding Organization: Baylor University Research Committee

Budget: \$42,700

Developing Practical Treatments for Challenging Behavior Among Children with Autism

Principal Investigator: Dr. Jessica Akers

Co-principal Investigator: Dr. Tonya Davis

Competition: Mid-range Grant Program

Funding Organization: Baylor University Research Committee

Budget: \$7,500

Developing Best Practices for Supervising Pre-Service Behavior Analyst Field Experiences

Principal Investigator: Dr. Tonya Davis

Co-Principal Investigator: Dr. Jessica Akers

Competition: Teaching Exploration Grant

Funding Organization: Baylor University Academy for Teaching and Learning

Budget: \$7,000

A further evaluation of increasing sharing in children with autism spectrum disorder using programmed discriminative stimuli

Principal Investigator: Dr. Jessica Akers

Funding Organization: School of Education, Baylor University.

Competition: Summer Sabbatical

A further evaluation of establishing discriminative control over response variability in young children with autism

Principal Investigator: Dr. Jessica Akers

Funding Organization: School of Education, Baylor University.

Competition: Summer Sabbatical

### ***Contracts***

EOAC & BU Applied Behavior Analysis Graduate Program & School Psychology Partnership Grant

Principal Investigator: Dr. Kristen Padilla-Mainor

Co-Principal Investigators: Drs. Jessica Akers and Julie Ivey

Funding Organization: Equal Opportunities Advancement Corp

Funding Dates: Summer 2020-Summer 2021

Budget: \$59,999

Applied Behavior Analysis & School Psychology Graduate Program

Principal Investigator: Dr. Kristen Padilla-Mainor

Co-Principal Investigators: Drs. Jessica Akers, Stephanie Gerow and Eric Robinson

Funding Organization: Waco Independent School District

Funding Dates: Summer 2020-Summer 2021

Budget: \$73,408

Midway Independent School District and Baylor University Applied Behavior Analysis Graduate Program Partnership Grant

Principal Investigator: Dr. Kristen Padilla-Mainor

Co-Principal Investigators: Drs. Jessica Akers and Stephanie Gerow

Funding Organization: Midway Independent School District

Funding Dates: Summer 2018-Summer 2019

Budget: \$36,587

Waco Independent School District and Baylor University Applied Behavior Analysis Graduate Program Partnership Grant

Principal Investigator: Dr. Kristen Padilla-Mainor

Co-Principal Investigators: Drs. Jessica Akers and Stephanie Gerow

Funding Organization: Waco Independent School District

Funding Dates: Summer 2018-Summer 2019

Budget: \$36,587

### **Grant Applications – Not Funded**

Improving Feasibility of Challenging Behavior Treatment

Principal Investigator: Davis, T.N.

Co-principal Investigator: Akers, J. S.

Competition: Applied Research Competition

Updated: January 21, 2024

Funding Organization: Organization for Autism Research  
Budget: \$40,000

Evaluating the Use of Tele-Health Technology to Improve Young Children’s Access to Effective Problem Behavior Interventions.

Principal Investigator: Dr. Stephanie Gerow

Co-Principal Investigators: Dr. Jessica Akers,

Funding Organization: Caplan Foundation for Early Childhood

Budget: \$45,000 for 1 year

Central Texas Autism Training

Principal Investigator: Dr. Tracey Sulak

Co-Principal Investigators: Drs. Jessica Akers, Stephanie Gerow and Kristen Padilla-Mainor

Competition: 2018-2019 Services to Students with Autism

Funding Organization: Texas Education Agency

Budget: \$1,000,000 over 2 years

Role: Assisted with development of the innovative early intervention plan and the writing of the grant application.

### **Professional Development**

“The Wisdom to Know the Difference”: Improving Student Writing by Changing Ourselves. Seminar for Excellence in Teaching. Academy for Teaching and Learning. Baylor University. Waco, TX. October 17, 2017.

Click, Share, Discuss: Building an Evidence-Based Model for Using Clickers in Your Classroom. Seminar for Excellence in Teaching. Academy for Teaching and Learning. Baylor University. Waco, TX. March 15, 2018.

Demystifying the “Flipped Classroom”. Seminar for Excellence in Teaching. Academy for Teaching and Learning. Baylor University. Waco, TX. October 17, 2018.

Canvas Bag of Tricks & Treats: Bite-Sized Edition. Baylor Online Teaching and Learning. Baylor University. Waco, TX. October 31, 2019

Cidi Labs: Design Canvas Courses Like a Pro. Baylor Online Teaching and Learning Services Baylor University. Waco, TX. November 6, 2019

Academic Analytics Presentation: Faculty Insight & Faculty Expertise Portal. Office of the Provost, Baylor University. Waco, TX. October 6, 2020.

Single-Case Intervention Research Design and Analysis Summer Training Institute. National Center for Special Education Research, U.S. Department of Education. Madison, WI. June 18-22, 2019.

Updated: January 21, 2024

Planning and Writing Successful STEM Proposals Seminar. Office of the Vice Provost for Research, Baylor University. Waco, TX. January 10, 2019.

Planning and Writing Successful NIH K Award Applications Seminar. Office of the Vice Provost for Research, Baylor University. Waco, TX. January 5, 2018.

OSP 101: A Researcher's Guide to Grants Management. Office of Research Advancement and Research Compliance. Waco, TX. October 4, 2018.

Planning and Writing Successful Proposals Seminar. Office of the Vice Provost for Research, Baylor University. Waco, TX. January 4, 2018.

### **Awards and Honors**

- |             |  |
|-------------|--|
| Spring 2022 | Outstanding Faculty Award for Teaching/Tenure Track Faculty, Baylor University |
| Fall 2018   | Proposal Development Award, Office of Research Advancement, Baylor University. |
| Fall 2018   | Rising Stars Program, Office of Research Advancement, Baylor University.       |

### **Service**

#### **Service to the Profession**

Editorial Board for Behavior Analysis in Practice (2022-present)

Guest Associate Editor

Education and Treatment of Children

Guest Reviewer

Journal of Applied Behavior Analysis

Journal of Autism and Developmental Disorders

Behavior Analysis in Practice

Behavior Modification

Journal of Behavioral Education

Behavioral Development

The Analysis of Verbal Behavior

Developmental Neurorehabilitation

Behavioral Interventions

Education and Treatment of Children

Review Journal of Autism and Developmental Disorders

European Journal of Behavior Analysis

Updated: January 21, 2024

### **Service to the Educational Psychology Department**

Ph.D. Program Enhancement Ad Hoc Committee, Baylor University. Fall 2019-Fall 2020

Role: Attended all meetings. Aided in the resynchronization of the course sequence for Ph.D. program. Assisted in the development of new preliminary exam procedures.

ABA Practicum Coordinator, Baylor University. Summer 2019-present.

Role: Revised ABA practicum handbook. Create or revamp practicum syllabi at all six levels. Organize and oversee all practicum related documentation.

ABA Faculty Member. Department of Educational Psychology, Baylor University. Fall 2017-present.

Role: Attended all ABA faculty meeting. Aided in the resynchronization of the course sequence with the certification task list. Assisted in the development of new doctoral courses for the ABA specialization.

Informational Sessions for Students Interested in the ABA Specialization. Educational Psychology Department, Baylor University. Fall 2017-present.

Role: Attended sessions.

Educational Psychology Department Meetings, Educational Psychology Department, Baylor University. Fall 2017-present.

Role: Attended all meetings.

### **Service to the School of Education**

Baylor Clinic for Assessment, Research and Evaluation (CARE) Coordinator, Baylor Center for Developmental Disabilities (BCDD), Baylor University. Fall 2021-present.

Role: Coordinated service delivery for children with developmental disabilities.

School of Education Faculty Meetings. School of Education, Baylor University. Fall 2017-present.

Role: Attended all meetings.

### **Service to the University**

Commencement Committee Member. Fall 2020-present.

### **Service to the Student**

***Judge for Baylor Annual Graduate Research Showcase***

Fall 2019

I was invited to serve as a judge for posters which presented the research of Baylor graduate students for multiple disciplines.

***Judge for Baylor Outstanding Graduate Student Instructor***

Fall 2023

I was invited to serve as a judge for the Outstanding Teaching Award for Baylor graduate students across the university. I reviewed application packets and rated the quality of the materials.

### **Dissertation and Theses**

<b>Student</b>	<b>Project</b>	<b>Role</b>	<b>Graduation Date or Anticipated Graduation Date</b>
Trevor Austin	Dissertation	Committee Member	Expected: May 2024
Danielle Kremer	Undergraduate Thesis	Committee Member	Expected: August 2024
Emily Exline	Dissertation	Committee Member	Expected: May 2024
Amy Baskin	Master's Thesis	Outside Committee Member	Expected: May 2024
Remington Swensson	Dissertation	Chair	Expected: December 2023
Abigail Gutierrez	Dissertation	Outside Committee Member	August 2023
MacKenzie Wicker	Dissertation	Committee Member	December 2023
Kristina McGinnis	Dissertation	Committee Member	December 2023
Nicole O'Guinn	Dissertation	Chair	August 2022
Suzannah Avery	Dissertation	Chair	August 2022
Remington Swensson	Master's Thesis	Chair	May 2022
Marie Kirkpatrick	Dissertation	Chair	August 2021
Emily Exline	Master's Thesis	Committee Member	August 2021
Kristen Padilla	Dissertation	Chair	August 2020
Vida Canestaro	Master's Thesis	Chair	December 2019
Regan Weston	Dissertation	Committee Member	August 2019
Providence Lively	Master's Thesis	Committee Member	December 2018
Kristen Williams	Master's Thesis	Committee Member	December 2018

### ***Meeting with Students***

ABA Research Meetings. ABA Faculty, Baylor University. Fall 2017-Present.

Description: The ABA Faculty mentored ten graduate students in conducting their own student-led research during these meetings.

Role: Dr. Tonya Davis and I organized these monthly research meetings. During the meetings, I provided mentorship and guidance to students leading research.

### **Service to the Community**

#### ***Committee Service***

EOAC Head Start Advisory Committee. Fall 2018

Description: Collaborate with EOAC Head Start administrators in an advisory capacity to help improve Head Start's early learning outcomes for young children and approaches to school readiness.

**Akers, J. S.** (2024). *Increasing Sibling Positive Interactions*. Presentation for VIP Night Caregiver Resources, Midway Independent School District, Waco, TX.

**Akers, J. S., & Padilla-Mainor, K.** (2018). *Autism and Challenging Behavior: Transferable Teaching Approaches*. Presentation for EOAC Head Start, Waco, TX.

**Akers, J. S., & Pellegrino, A. J.** (2015). *Discrete Trial Instruction and Challenging Behavior*. Presentation for school district training, West Valley, UT.

**Akers, J. S.** (2014). *Preparing for the Holidays*. Presentation for ASSERT parent training, Logan, UT.

**Akers, J. S., & Reinert, K.** (2014). *Using activity schedules to promote independence in early learners*. Presentation for ASSERT parent training, Logan, UT.

**Akers, J. S., & Gerencser, K. R.** (2014). *Discrete Trial Instruction and Challenging Behavior*. Presentation for school district training, West Valley, UT.

**Akers, J. S., Pellegrino, A. J., & Higbee, T. S.** (2014). *Verbal Behavior Milestones Assessment and Placement Program (VB-MAPP)*. Presentation for URLEND, Logan, UT.

**Akers, J. S., & Reinert, K.** (2013). *Preparing for the Holidays*. Presentation for ASSERT parent training, Logan, UT.

**Akers, J. S., Gerencser, K. R. & Higbee, T. S.** (2013). *Verbal Behavior Milestones Assessment and Placement Program (VB-MAPP)*. Presentation for URLEND, Logan, UT.

**Akers, J. S., & Contreras, B.** (2013). *Promoting Play and Language in Young Children with Autism*. Presentation for ASSERT parent training, Logan, UT.

**Akers, J. S.** (2013). *Discrete Trial Instruction and Challenging Behavior*. Presentation for school district training, West Valley, UT.

**Akers, J. S., & Nix, L.** (2012). *Preparing for the Holidays*. Presentation for ASSERT parent training, Logan, UT.

**Brodhead, M., & Akers, J. S.** (2012). *Discrete Trial Instruction and Challenging Behavior*. Presentation for school district training, West Valley, UT.

**Akers, J. S., Gerencser, K. R. & Higbee, T. S.** (2012). *Verbal Behavior Milestones Assessment and Placement Program (VB-MAPP)*. Presentation for URLEND, Logan, UT.

**Akers, J. S., & Gerencser, K. R.** (2012). *Challenging Behavior*. Presentation for ASSERT parent training, Logan, UT.

**Akers, J. S.,** Gerencser, K. R. & Higbee, T. S. (2012). *Introduction to Autism and Applied Behavior Analysis*. Presentation for Child & Family Support Center, Logan, UT.

Kelley, K.N., **Akers, J. S.** & Higbee, T.S. (2012). *Behavioral interventions for students with autism*. Presentation for Head Start teachers and paraprofessionals. Logan, UT.

**Akers, J. S.,** & Brodhead, M. (2011). *Preparing for the Holidays*. Presentation for ASSERT parent training, Logan, UT.

### **Professional Memberships:**

Association of Behavior Analysis (ABAI)

Association for Contextual Behavioral Science (ACBS)

Texas Association of Behavior Analysis (TxABA)

California Association of Behavior Analysis (CalABA)

### **Professional Experience:**

- 2015- 2017                      Post-doctoral Research Associate, University of Nebraska Medical Center: Munroe-Meyer Institute, Omaha, Nebraska  
Role: Implemented treatment targeting the reduction of severe challenging behavior. Participated in research addressing acquisition of conditional responding for children with autism and the reduction of challenging behavior including food stealing, aggression, and self-injurious behavior.
- 2013- 2015                      Consultant, Granite School District, West Valley, Utah  
Role: Consulted in four classrooms within the school district: two preschool autism model classrooms providing one-on-one instruction, and two hybrid model classrooms (kindergarten and 1<sup>st</sup>-3<sup>rd</sup> grade) providing one-on-one, two-on-one and group instruction for children with autism. Trained teachers and paraprofessionals to implement effective teaching strategies.
- 2012-2013                      Consultant, Park City School District, Park City, Utah  
Role: Trained teachers to implement discrete trial instruction and conduct the Verbal Behavior Milestones Assessment and Placement Program (VB-MAPP) assessment.
- 2011- 2013                      Case Manager, Utah State University Autism Support Services: Education, Research and Training (ASSERT) Preschool, Logan, Utah  
Role: Served as the case manager for multiple children. Tasks included developing goals, monitoring client progress, parent and staff training.
- 2009-2011                      Clinical Supervisor, Central California Autism Center, Fresno, California

Role: Served as the case manager for multiple children. Tasks included developing goals, monitoring client progress, parent and staff training.

**Professional Certifications and Training:**

2012-present      Board-Certified Behavior Analyst-Doctoral (BCBA-D)  
Certification number: 1-12-10034

2018-present      Licensed Behavior Analyst, Texas  
License number: 1808