



## ABA Services Overview

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[www.VistaAutismServices.org](http://www.VistaAutismServices.org)

Vista, as an autism services provider, provides Applied Behavioral Analysis (“ABA”) to children, youth, and young adults diagnosed with autism in order to produce socially significant improvements in their functioning. We recognize the absolute need for consistency in the delivery of therapeutic services across the age span for individual’s with ASD, and the reality that one of the significant components of a young child’s “community” is the treatment environment. In addition, critical to the design of effective services is the development of a delivery system that directly addresses the unique needs of each child.

Vista’s ABA services provides services to children, youth, and young adults ages 12 months to 21 years of age, with a primary diagnosis of Autism Spectrum Disorder or Pervasive Developmental Disorder, from the most recent DSM or ICD. The outcome of Vista’s ABA services program is to remediate the core deficits of autism. To produce socially significant improvements in behavior; further develop functional abilities; prevent the loss of attained skills and functions for enrolled children, youth, and young adults in order for them to transition to and benefit from social activities in their home, school and community with less intensive staff supports settings.

Specific services provided in the ABA program include 1:1 Behavior Health Technician services provided Behavior Consultant Assistant, Behavior Consultation, and Behavior Analytic services. All such services may be provided across home, school, and community locations such as those typically accessed by the family or those where the child may encounter difficulty (e.g. physician’s office, grocery store, etc.). Vista’s arrangement of staffing compliments and treatment strategies are aimed to minimize the intensity of autism symptoms experienced by each student thus making opportunities for participation in home, community and social settings, with less intensive supports possible.

Vista’s ABA services create opportunities for individuals with ASD to receive services in their home, school settings, and local community environments, operating under the principle that every child has a capacity to grow and succeed when provided with the appropriate support structure and environment. Treatment activities provided address identified areas of development per the Individual Treatment Plan. Throughout treatment sessions, children, youth and young adults have the availability of staff support as needed to meet their behavioral needs. The duration and frequency of staff support and prescribed service is based on the written order, informing the prescribed hours and level of staff support. Information and assessments are completed at time of intake and annually to inform recommendations for the written order of needed services.

A hallmark of any effective service is to ensure those primarily responsible for care in the setting also receive training and support to address the areas of development, outside of the behavioral health service delivery hours. As an example, since children spend the majority of their time with their guardians, it is advantageous for guardians to be as involved as possible in the treatment process. Overall, home-based ABA treatment has a long history of scientific validation and is important to teaching not only individuals with autism, but their families and caregivers as well. In addition, to parent training other responsible caregivers and support staff (e.g. school and daycare personnel, external services) also benefit from the training and active participation in the treatment process extending the effectiveness of programming outside of service delivery hours.

To learn more about Vista’s ABA services and/or intake processes please contact Caitlin Neiswender at 717-583-5102 ext. 1135 or [caitlin.neiswender@vistaautismservices.org](mailto:caitlin.neiswender@vistaautismservices.org)