Q: Does my online MS in Applied Behavior Analysis from The Chicago School of Professional Psychology meet the degree, coursework, and supervised experience requirements for me to be eligible to become a Board Certified Behavior Analyst (BCBA®)?

A. Yes. The online MS in Applied Behavior Analysis program at The Chicago School of Professional Psychology aligns with the degree, coursework, and supervised experience requirements to be eligible for Certification as a BCBA®.

Q. Is there anything else I need to do after I graduate in order to become a BCBA®?

A. Yes. All individuals pursuing BCBA® certification are required to pass the Board Certified Behavior Analyst Examination and complete the application process, which may include fees and/or a background check as well as documentation of completed coursework and supervised experience.

Q. I have more questions about BCBA® certification. Where can I get more information?

A. More information can be found at the Behavior Analyst Certification Board® (BACB®) website: http://www.bacb.com/

Q. Do I need a license to work as a behavior analyst?

A. There may be state professional licensure requirements to practice applied behavior analysis. A state’s licensure board determines the specific requirements for candidates seeking professional licensure and those requirements are subject to change. The following is professional licensure information as of the date of revision:

- Graduation from the M.S. Applied Behavior Analysis Program in conjunction with BCBA® certification aligns with degree and certification requirements for professional licensure in Alabama, Arizona, Alaska, Hawaii, Kansas, Kentucky, Louisiana, Maryland, Massachusetts, Missouri, Mississippi, Nevada, North Dakota, Ohio, Oklahoma, Oregon, Rhode Island, Virginia, Vermont, Washington, and Wisconsin. Graduation from the M.S. Applied Behavior Analysis Program aligns with degree requirements for professional licensure in Arizona, Massachusetts, and New York. Note that candidates for licensure may be required to meet additional state requirements such as application, examination, and background check.

- A professional license is not required to practice behavior analysis in Arkansas, California, Colorado, Connecticut, Delaware, Florida, Georgia, Idaho, Illinois, Indiana, Iowa, Maine, Minnesota, Nebraska, New Hampshire, New Jersey, New Mexico, North Carolina, Pennsylvania, South Carolina, Texas, West Virginia, Wyoming, and the District of Columbia. State laws on professional licensure are subject to change by their legislatures.

It is the student’s responsibility to determine the licensure requirements for any state not listed above. The M.S. Applied Behavior Analysis may meet some or all of the requirements of states not listed, but additional state-specific approvals or coursework and/or practicum hours may be required beyond the program’s graduation requirements. Some state licensing requirements include the following: completion of a master's
degree, post-graduate field work, certification as a board certified behavior analyst, examination, and application for license.

Q. **What is the difference between state licensure and certification?**
A. A state license is authorization from a particular state to practice behavior analysis and/or to call oneself a licensed behavior analyst in that state. International certification from the BACB® demonstrates to the public and employers that the behavior analyst has met the minimal standards set by the behavior analyst profession. It is not a license to practice. In some states, holding BACB® certification can assist the behavior analyst in obtaining licensure. International certification travels with the behavior analyst no matter the state or country of residence.

Q. **I have more questions about state licensure to practice behavior analysis. Where can I get more information?**
A: The Association of Professional Behavior Analysts (APBA) publishes information regarding which states require licensure; however, the laws are rapidly changing so it is highly recommended that you contact your state board directly for information regarding licensure. The information from the APBA can be found here: [http://www.apbahome.net/general/recommended_links.asp](http://www.apbahome.net/general/recommended_links.asp)

The Association for Behavior Analysis International (ABAI) website also provides links to all state chapters that are involved in legislation related to the licensing of behavior analysts, as well as international chapter information: [https://www.abainternational.org/constituents/chapters/usa-affiliated-chapters.aspx](https://www.abainternational.org/constituents/chapters/usa-affiliated-chapters.aspx)