

Curriculum Vitae  
**Leigh Sams Ashley, M.A., BCBA**

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**EDUCATION**

**Ph.D.**                    **University of South Florida** 2018-present  
Major: Behavioral and Community Sciences  
Specialization: Positive Behavior Support  
Date of graduation: Expected July 2021  
Dissertation title: Peer-mediated interventions to improve social interaction outcomes.

**M.A.**                    **University of South Florida** 2007-2009  
Major: Applied Behavior Analysis  
Degree: MA  
Date of graduation: May 2009  
Thesis title: "It's time to play!" Peer implemented Pivotal Response Training with a child with autism during recess

**B.A.**                    **University of South Florida** 2005-2007  
Major: Psychology  
Degree: BA  
Date of graduation: June 2007

**St. Petersburg College** 2003-2005  
Major: Psychology  
Degree: Courses completed towards a BA  
Date of transfer: July 2005

**PRIMARY RESEARCH INTERESTS**

Positive Behavior Support  
Early interventions  
Autism  
Peer training  
Supporting inclusion

**PROFESSIONAL EXPERIENCE**

**August 2018 – Present**  
University of South Florida  
Tampa, Florida

**Graduate Assistant**  
Collaborate with the National Center for Pyramid Model Innovations. Conducts research with the Florida Center for Inclusive Communities.

**January 2015 - Present**  
Positive Behavior Supports  
Cooperation

**Analyst**

Brandon, Florida

Supervise behavioral assistants implementing 1:1 ABA/VB instruction. Conduct caregiver training. Provide 1:1 ABA/VB instruction to children on the autism spectrum.

**January 2009 - October 2014**

Advanced Behavioral Systems  
d/b/a Engage Behavioral  
Health  
Tampa, Florida

**Area Director of Pinellas and West Pasco**

Provided supervision to behavior change agents implementing 1:1 ABA/VB instruction. Created and provided CEUs and staff trainings. Provided 1:1 ABA/VB instruction to children on the autism spectrum. Previous positions: Director of Research, Director of Training, Director of Cooperate Development, Supervisor, and Behavior Therapist.

**December 2008 - May 2009**

Louis de la Parte Florida  
Mental Health Institute  
Tampa, Florida

**Behavioral Therapist**

Provided 1:1 ABA/VB instruction to children on the autism spectrum under the supervision of a BCBA-D. Collected, graphed, and analyzed data each session.

**August 2007 - December 2008**

Early Autism Intervention  
Clinics  
St. Petersburg, Florida

**Behavioral Therapist**

Provided 1:1 ABA/VB instruction to children on the autism spectrum under the supervision of a BCBA-D. Collected, graphed, and analyzed data each session.

**November 2007 - June 2008**

ABA Solutions, Inc.  
East Lake, Florida

**Behavior Assistant, School-Based**

Observed clients receiving behavioral intervention in the school setting under the supervision of a BCBA. Recorded data on client and staff behaviors. Graphed and analyzed data each session.

**CERTIFICATES**

Board Certified Behavior Analyst

Certificate number: 1-09-5882

Certification date: August 2009

**ACTIVITIES**

Behavior Health Student Origination 2019-current

Florida Center for Inclusive Communities Trainee 2019-current

Florida Center for Inclusive Communities grant writing trainee 2019

Student Applied Behavior Analysis Society 2008-2009

University Center for Excellence in Developmental Disabilities Education 2007-2009, 2018-present

PSI CHI Psychology Honor Society 2006-2007

University Psychology Association 2005-2007, Vice President 2006-2007

## **RESEARCH EXPERIENCE**

University of South Florida, Supervisor: Dr. Lise Fox: August 2018 – present

### *Principal Investigator*

Conducted several research projects towards my doctoral dissertation on peer-mediated intervention within the early childhood environment.

University of South Florida, Supervisor: Dr. Lise Fox: October 2008 - March 2009

### *Principal Investigator*

Conducted my Master's thesis on teaching peers to use Pivotal Response Training (PRT) strategies with a child with autism during recess. Collected data on peers' use of PRT strategies and the child's response to the intervention. Graphed and analyzed the data to determine treatment protocol. Wrote a manuscript on the intervention.

University of South Florida, Supervisor: Dr. Raymond Miltenberger: April 2008 - June 2008

### *Research Assistant*

Assisted Mrs. Judy Mowery on her Master's thesis that investigated the use of tactile prompts to increase the frequency of positive social behavior by staff in group homes.

University of South Florida, Supervisor: Dr. Raymond Miltenberger: November 2007 - February 2008

### *Research Assistant*

Assisted Mrs. Julie Horn on her Master's thesis that investigated the use of video modeling to teach laundry skills to individuals with developmental disabilities in group homes.

## **PUBLICATIONS**

Horn, J.A., Miltenberger, R. G., Weil, T., Mowery, J., Conn, M., & **Sams, L.** (2008). Teaching laundry skills to individuals with developmental disabilities using video prompting. *International Journal of Behavioral Consultation and Therapy*, 4(3), 279-286.

## **PRESENTATIONS**

Fox, L., **Ashley, L.**, Veguilla, M., & Morris, C. (2020). "Addressing inappropriate discipline practices: Examining state policies on preschool suspension and expulsion". Poster presentation at the Association of Positive Behavior Support. Miami, Fl. (Conference canceled).

**Ashley, L.**, Fox, L. (2019). "It's time to play!" Effect of peer implemented Pivotal Response Training" Poster presentation at the Association of Positive Behavior Support. Washington, DC.

**Ashley, L.** (2013). Strategies for handling difficult situations with supervisees and caregivers. Continuing education training for BCBAs. Engage Behavioral Health. Tampa, Florida.

**Ashley, L.** (2013). Behavioral skills training. Continuing education training for BCBAs. Engage Behavioral Health. Tampa, Florida.

**Ashley, L.** (2013). Delivering performance feedback. Continuing education training for BCBAs. Engage Behavioral Health. Tampa, Florida.

**Ashley, L.** (2013). Effectively using intensive toilet training procedures. Continuing education training for BCBAs. Engage Behavioral Health. Tampa, Florida.

**Ashley, L.** (2013). Documentation, you can't live with it, and you can't practice ABA without it!  
Continuing education training for BCBAs. Engage Behavioral Health. Tampa, Florida.

**MEMBERSHIPS IN PROFESSIONAL ORGANIZATIONS**

Association of Positive Behavior Support: 2018-present

Association for Behavior Analysis International: 2017-present

**REFERENCES**

Available upon request.