

Tradewind's Education Center  
Functional Behavior Assessment with Functional Analysis

In order to better understand and treat your child's challenging behavior, a functional behavior assessment (FBA) is being recommended by your child's education team. As part of this FBA, we will use a specific procedure called functional analysis. This is a gold standard approach to understanding and treatment complex behavior. A description of this procedure is below. You can also look up more information about the process we follow on ([www.practicalfunctionalassessment.com](http://www.practicalfunctionalassessment.com)).

The first step is to interview classroom staff in order to learn what may trigger your child's problem behavior in the classroom and what the payoff is for your child after displaying that behavior. We basically want to know what starts or turns on (triggers) the behavior and what turns off (reinforces) the behavior. *Functional analysis* will then be used to confirm this information. Typically, this analysis will be conducted in a treatment room, although it may be conducted in the classroom or other areas in the school where problem behaviors have been occurring.

During *functional analysis*, the clinician intentionally presents the triggers and reinforcers to your child. For example, a student may engage in challenging behaviors when given a math task in the classroom. Math problems may be delivered to confirm if problem behaviors occur and whether the problem behavior stops as a result of the clinician removing the math problems.

After the functional analysis is complete, we will use the results to assess your child's response to an individualized treatment process for strengthening skills of communication, waiting, and compliance to normal instructions in the classroom. This treatment process will involve teaching your child a more appropriate way to get reinforcers via communication rather than engaging in challenging behavior. Once your child has learned an appropriate way to communicate in order to get reinforcers, then the clinician will teach waiting (delaying or denying access to the reinforcers) and then, finally, compliance to school-related instructions. Once the clinician has completed this process, an FBA report will be generated with a description of the results and recommendations for the classroom and/or home. Finally, a meeting will be scheduled with your CSE to discuss the results and recommendations.

All procedures outlined above will be videotaped for quality assurance and supervision. All videotapes will be securely stored at the school. Should your child engage in any behavior that cannot be safely managed, the clinician will stop the procedures and follow Tradewinds Education Center's emergency intervention procedures as needed.

We are requesting consent to conduct a functional analysis with your child **students name** which may result in your child engaging in challenging behavior(s). A master's level clinical staff member will complete these procedures. Your child's protection and risk reduction from harm will consist of: 1) providing access to reinforcers that "turn off" the challenging behavior and therefore reduce risk; 2) terminating the functional analysis following an incident of challenging behavior that places them or others at risk of harm (e.g., cannot be turned off); 3) utilizing emergency intervention strategies (SCIP-R); 4) providing supervision to clinicians through videotaping each session (tapes will be securely stored on site); 5) utilizing additional staff during the process if needed.

By signing below, you consent to allow us to conduct a functional analysis and functional communication training. If you have any questions about this process or would like to set up a time to observe it, please contact your child's *behavior specialist (Insert name)* or the Chief Psychologist Erik Jacobson, Ph.D. at 315-927-3465 or [erik.jacobson@upstatecp.org](mailto:erik.jacobson@upstatecp.org).

Sincerely,

\_\_\_\_\_  
BCBA/ABA Teacher

I consent to having a Functional Analysis and Functional Communication Training conducted with:

\_\_\_\_\_  
(Please print your child's name)

\_\_\_\_\_  
Parent/guardian signature

\_\_\_\_\_  
Date