

# Interview Questions for Consultants

(as supplied by the Autism Support Network)

- Are you a Board Certified Behavior Analyst (BCBA)? *Note: there is also a certification called BCABA, which is not a recommended level for designing ABA programs. BCABA professionals may work under the supervision of a BCBA professional.*
- Who supervised your practical experience for your degree or BCBA? *Supervision should be done by someone with a BCBA who has at least 5 years experience designing ABA programs for children with autism.*
- Would you be able to develop programs for novel situations that are not on the Assessment of Basic Language and Learning Skills or ABLLS? *BC is known to have many consultants who depend very heavily on ABLLS and can only design cookie cutter programs to address ABLLS skills. It is important that a consultant can address any deficits or excesses by being able to design novel programs.*
- Do you have training in designing Manding programs? (important for younger children who do not yet speak)
- How will you ensure that my child's curriculum is individualized to his/her specific needs? *An assessment should be conducted with your child prior to the design of the curriculum. The curriculum designed for your child should be based on the results of this assessment. Curriculum that is pre-designed, is often referred to a 'cookie cutter' approach and should be avoided.*
- My child often engages in \_(insert challenging behaviour)\_ what would you do to target the decrease of this behaviour? *You are looking for two answers here - It is important that the practitioner that you select has experience programing for the decrease of challenging behaviours and not just increasing academic and communication behaviours. The other response that you are looking for is that the practitioner will design a program that addresses the function of the challenging behaviour ....so the practitioner will determine why the child is engaging in that behaviour and will design an intervention that addresses that particular function. As a caution, you should be wary of a Consultant who say they would do a specific intervention, as the correct answer would be to identify the function first and then go from there.*
- Describe the curricular domains around which you will be designing curriculum for my child. *It is import that a comprehensive curriculum will be designed for your child. The key curricular domains include but are not limited to - academic literacy (pre-academics, literacy and numeracy), communication, play skills/leisure skills, self-help, social skills, and self-management.*
- Who would you consider to be your mentors/inspirations in the field? *This is a great way to identify their influences.*