RBT® CHEAT SHEET · ETHICS · F.1, F.2, F.3, F.5, F.6, F.7, F.8

RBT ethics and supervision essentials

The best answer is usually honest, keeps you inside the RBT role, and tells your supervisor.

Supervision: the monthly minimum F.3

5%	2+	1+	1+
of your service hours, every calendar month	face-to-face, real-time contacts	individual contact; the other may be a group of up to 10 RBTs	observation of you with a client

- Real-time means in person or live video. Phone calls and email do not count.
- Each month stands alone. Extra hours do not carry over.
- Example: 140 hours of services in a month needs at least 7 hours of supervision (140 × 0.05), plus the contacts and observation.
- A qualified supervisor is a BCBA or BCaBA who has completed the BACB's supervisor training (Supervisor Training Curriculum Outline 2.0). A lead RBT, teacher or office manager does not count.
- No independent practice, however experienced you are. With no qualified supervisor, pause services and contact your organization.
- You share responsibility for making supervision happen.

Four core principles F.1

Principle	Ask yourself
Benefit others	Does this help the client, and could it cause harm?
Compassion, dignity and respect	Am I treating this person the way they deserve?
Integrity	Am I honest, and doing what I said I would?
Competence	Have I been trained and checked on this?

Kind is not the same as agreeable: you can be warm and still decline a request that conflicts with the plan. An instruction does not remove your responsibility; raise concerns before you act.

Scope and competence F.2

- **Scope:** what the RBT role allows. **Competence:** what you were trained on and observed doing correctly. Both must be yes.
- Never yours: designing or changing plans, clinical decisions, medical, diet, speech or counseling advice.
- Not trained on it? Say so before the session.

Gifts F.8

- Worth **$10 US or less**, in either direction, with a client, stakeholder or supervisor.
- Thanks, not payment. Repeated small gifts can still cross the line.
- If your organization is stricter, follow it. Unsure? Tell your supervisor.

Confidentiality F.5

- Collect only what you need; store it securely; share on a need-to-know basis through approved channels.
- Outside the team, share only as your supervisor directs and with the required consent, apart from legal duties such as mandated reporting of suspected abuse.
- Confirming someone is a client is a disclosure. A minor's legal guardian generally has a right to information.

Social media F.6

- No client names, photos, videos or stories on social media or websites, even with a caregiver's permission.
- Describe yourself accurately: an RBT working under supervision. No promises of results.
- Send any marketing or media request to your supervisor.

Multiple relationships F.7

- Decline second roles: babysitting, private sessions for cash, social media friendships.
- If one exists, tell your supervisor right away and document it. If it involves your supervisor, tell their manager.
- Running into a family at a store is not a violation. No romantic or sexual relationships with current clients, stakeholders or supervisors, or with former clients or stakeholders for at least 2 years after services end.

Exam traps

"Make it up next month" or "keep going for now" without a supervisor is wrong.

Two group meetings do not meet the minimum: one contact must be individual.

"They can't be identified" does not make a personal post acceptable.

Trying a new procedure "carefully" from the written steps, without training, is a distractor.

Read the free lesson

F.3 Work only under ongoing supervision from a qualified supervisor

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