



## Alabama Autism Assistance Program

300 Shadow Wood Park Suite 100  
Birmingham, AL 35244  
205-332-2542

The Alabama Autism Assistance Program is a non-profit organization providing scholarships to families with children with autism. The mission of the Alabama Autism Assistance Program (AAAP) is to provide scholarships to children diagnosed with autism spectrum disorders to help pay for behavioral therapy, consultation services, and biomedical interventions.

Scholarships are given four times per year and applicants may apply multiple times. The Board of Directors of AAAP vote on who receives the scholarships. Applicants must complete a scholarship application. They must indicate on the application if they are applying for assistance with behavioral or biomedical therapy or both. If the application is for behavioral therapy, a letter from the Board Certified Behavioral Analyst overseeing the program must be included. If the application is for biomedical treatment, a letter from the medical doctor providing treatment must be included. If the application is for both, a letter from each provider must be included. Scholarship amounts will be based on funds available and the need of the applicants.

What is ABA therapy? The principles of behavior are applied systematically to improve socially significant behavior. Assessments and evaluation is used to identify the variable responsible for the behavior. An individualized plan is created to increase appropriate behavior and decrease inappropriate behavior. Discrete Trial Teaching is a part of an ABA program.

Discrete Trial Teaching is a specific method of teaching used to maximize learning. It is a teaching technique or process used to develop many skills, including cognitive, communication, play, social, and self help skills.

The teaching strategy involves:

- Breaking skills into smallest steps
- Teaching each step of the skill intensively until mastered
- Providing lots of repetition
- Prompting the correct response and fading the prompts as soon as possible and
- Using positive reinforcement procedures.

What is Biomedical Intervention? In numerous studies autism has been associated with

food sensitivities, profound vitamin, mineral and fatty acid deficiencies, some abnormalities in purine levels and essential amino acids as well as some cases with hormonal and cholesterol metabolism abnormalities. Through examination and biomedical testing, each individual's symptoms can be understood and treatment can be tailored accordingly. Some treatments can include but are not limited to changes in diet, vitamins, and supplements and chelation for heavy metal toxicity.

AAAP wants to be able to provide these services to families who without assistance would be unable to receive them. Every child with autism deserves the best care possible and AAAP hopes to be able to assist in providing that care.

If you or anyone you know would benefit from AAAP's services please contact us at 205-332-2542 for a scholarship application.

We always are in need of your help. Please send donations to:

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Thank you for your time and interest in our program!