



## Professionals you may Encounter Through Service Delivery

There are many professionals who can provide support to persons with ASD. Here are some professionals you may encounter through school supports or through service providers.

### Board Certified Behaviour Analyst (BCBA)

A BCBA has received graduate-level training and experience in behaviour analysis. A BCBA is board governed and has the expertise to assess, implement, and oversee interventions using Applied Behaviour Analysis (ABA). A BCBA may provide clinical supervision only, or they may provide direct one-on-one support with an individual or help families learn how to implement ABA programming.

### Behaviour Therapist (BT)

A BT is a professional who is trained in delivering ABA. A BT may have combined education and experience related to ABA. A BT is usually supervised by a Clinical Supervisor (or variant) who is a BCBA and has completed a required amount of experience and supervision hours in order to provide supervision. A BT may provide direct one-on-one support with a person with ASD and/or coach parents/caregivers on how to implement ABA programming.

### Special Education Resource Teacher (SERT)

A SERT is a teacher who specializes in providing support for students with disabilities. A SERT may provide educational assessments and prepare an Individualized Education Program (IEP) to guide a classroom teacher on how to support the student, or may work closely to provide instruction about a specific area such as reading, writing, or math. A SERT may also supervise a classroom for students with special needs who may be supported by Educational Assistants.

### Occupational Therapist (OT)

An OT is a regulated professional who delivers interventions related to helping to solve problems that interfere with a person's ability to do every day activities like caring for their hygiene, and attending school, work, or leisure activities. An OT is equipped to address physical issues including sensory processing issues, dexterity, and muscle tone.

### Speech-Language Pathologist (SLP)

A SLP is a regulated professional who completes assessments and delivers interventions related to communication, feeding, and swallowing. They may work in a variety of places like in private practice, rehabilitation centers, or hospitals. An SLP may work with a child/youth directly and see them on a regular basis to do activities and exercises to help with muscular strength, articulation, and language skills.

### Educational Assistant (EA)

An EA is a professional who is supervised by a teacher and provides additional support to students in a classroom. They may provide extra teaching to students who need more direction on certain subjects covered in class, and also may assist with self-care including eating, washroom, and personal hygiene routines. An EA may work in a regular classroom, or may work in a classroom for students with special needs.