

# IBCCES Recognizes University Autism Certificate Programs

## *IBCCES Steps Up in Credentialing Autism Professionals Dedicated to Quality Care*

JACKSONVILLE, FL (October 15, 2013) – International Board of Credentialing and Continuing Education Standards, the world's the largest independent credentialing and continuing education organizations with a focus in special needs and human services , today announced the launch of the Autism Certificate (AC). In close collaboration with IBCCES, professionals that attend a university autism certificate program or autism education conferences and online experiences, can fulfill one of the autism certificate requirements and on their way to being recognized as a professional dedicated to the study of autism spectrum disorder (ASD).

The unmet need for autism professionals is profound. There are a few places where schools can turn to find teachers and support staff with a dedicated background specifically to autism. University autism certificate programs and conferences are a good start, but those are not enough to answer the call to improve the quality of life for individuals with autism.

“We created the two levels of autism certification so that each professional is issued a credential number that is renewed every two years with proof of continued education relating specifically to autism spectrum disorder,” said Lyndsey Herrman , CEO for International Board of Credentialing and Continuing Education Standards. “Our goals are to increase the success of autism certificate programs offered by universities, attract more qualified professionals to the field and increase the quality of care to individuals with autism spectrum disorders.”

Working together, the IBCCES team is developing a platform of autism professionals to work in school settings as well as in private practice to address core related symptoms of autism. IBCCES will build and validate an expansive group of autism professionals that are aware of associated symptoms such as, repetitive and sensory behaviors, anxiety, hyperactivity, and cognitive development differences in autism.

The university autism certificate programs and the IBCCES credentialing process has an unprecedented focus on preparing professionals for the field. “Creating a certification renewal process with a standard of practice, code of ethics are continued professional development, are approaches that directly correlate to clinical practice, streamlining the professionals that are dedicated to the autism field,” said IBCCES Board Chair Myron Pincomb.

During the next two years, all university autism certificate programs will be accepted towards IBCCES certifications. Successful applicants credential numbers, and renewal dates will be publicized to ensure that employers and the autism community can verify ones credential status. “The Autism Certificate (AC) full requirements will be available through IBCCES to academic and autism institutions committed to developing autism education experiences,” added Pincomb.

**About IBCCES** (International Board of Credentialing and Continuing Education Standards) IBCCES, is the largest independent credentialing and continuing education organizations with a focus in special needs and human services. The IBCCES is the accrediting body for the Certified Autism Specialist (CAS) and the Autism Certificate (AC) programs. Our certification programs recognize professionals in the field of Autism who have met predetermined standards in their training, experience and performance. CAS and AC professionals live and work in the U.S. and more than 40 countries around the world.

[www.ibcces.org](http://www.ibcces.org) and [www.certifiedautismspecialist.com](http://www.certifiedautismspecialist.com)