# Vocational Rehabilitation Services Manual C-800: Neurodevelopmental and Psychological Services

Revised January 15, 2021

## C-803: Applied Behavior Analysis

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### C-803-4: Social Skills

Social skills are for customers who:

* have a social skills deficit and/or display maladaptive behavior; and
* do not have significant challenging behaviors, such as aggression.

The provider must first conduct one of the following:

* Individual assessment
* Group assessment (group assessment must be for the purpose of attending a social skills group); however, if the VR counselor is unsure of which social skills assessment is needed, purchasing a Pre-ABA Needs Determination is recommended

#### Individual Social Skills Assessment

An Individual Social Skills Assessment is intended to be a comprehensive evaluation of a customer's social skills abilities and is most appropriate when a customer has:

* a social skills deficit that requires individualized intervention; and
* the identified deficit is not appropriate to treat in a group setting.

This assessment is intended to provide a comprehensive evaluation of the following, but is not limited to:

* basic and advanced social and communication skills;
* self-regulation and emotional intelligence; and
* problem solving and executive functioning.

The provider must:

* observe the customer in at least two environments, such as the provider's office, the customer's home, or the community; and
* reflect the type of environment that the suspected social skills deficit occurs in.

The report must include, but is not limited to:

* initial reported concerns;
* dates, times, and summary of interviews;
* results of direct and indirect observations, assessments, and data collected;
* current home life and future living plans;
* employment goals and any other interests related to postsecondary options;
* current and past education, pertinent medical conditions, medicines, and therapies;
* identified skills deficit targeted to increase goals and mastery of criteria;
* current baseline for targeted skills deficit;
* any procedures, strategies, and supports needed to master identified goals;
* method in which progress is monitored; and
* recommended number of treatment hours and whether it is provided individually, in a group setting, or both.

Billable time must not exceed 12 hours and may include the following:

* Activities required to complete the assessment
* Phone calls, emails, review of records, meeting with VR counselor
* Writing and/or reviewing report with VR counselor, customer, or pertinent others (report must be reviewed either in person or by phone unless otherwise directed by the VR counselor)

#### Group Social Skills

A Group Social Skills Plan is a broad and brief evaluation for the purpose of attending a social skills group; however, the VR counselor must ensure that the provider has, or will have, an available social skills group appropriate for the customer before purchasing this service.

Group Social Skills is most appropriate when a customer:

* is not in need of a comprehensive social skills assessment; and/or
* has demonstrated that he or she is able to acquire skills in a group environment and not require more than a 1:6 VR counselor to customer instructional setting.

The plan is intended to be a brief evaluation of, but is not limited to, the following:

* Basic and advanced social and communication skills
* Self-regulation and emotional intelligence
* Problem solving and executive functioning

The provider must create a social skills plan for each customer participating in the social skills group.

The plan must include brief information on, but not limited to, the following:

* Interviews and informal assessments and their results
* How progress is monitored and frequency of progress reported
* Recommended number of treatment hours
* Treatment goals and proposed mastery of criteria

Billable time is paid at the level of the provider's individual rate, and time spent may include the following, but is not to exceed three hours:

* Activities required to complete the assessment
* Phone calls, emails, review of records, meeting with VR counselor
* Writing and reviewing theplan