FREE RBT STUDY SHEET · 2026 EXAM

Professional Conduct and Boundaries: RBT Ethics Practice

Professional conduct questions test whether an RBT can recognize a boundary issue and respond in the way that protects the client and the professional relationship. Common scenarios include gifts from families, outside jobs with clients, social media posts, and personal relationships that could create a conflict. This set focuses on those boundary situations. The right answer usually involves pausing, consulting the supervisor or the employer policy, and avoiding any action that blurs the line between professional and personal roles. Use the scenarios to practice a simple habit: pause, identify the boundary question, and check policy before acting.

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Practice questions

Answer every question before you look at the key, then check yourself on the next pages.

1. A client gives the RBT a handmade thank-you card with no market value. Which response meets the ethics requirements while preserving rapport?

- **A** Hold it until the caregiver signs a gift form, since the code requires written consent before gifts are kept.
- **B** Decline it gently, since accepting items from a client creates a conflict of interest.
- **C** Decline it and report the offer to the BACB, since the code bars RBTs from receiving gifts from clients.
- **D** Accept it graciously unless a stricter employer policy applies, since it has no monetary value.

2. During a home session, a caregiver offers Priya a $25 restaurant card to thank her for being patient. What response best fits Code 2.0?

- **A** Decline the restaurant card
- **B** Accept after the session ends
- **C** Trade it for a small item
- **D** Share it with coworkers

3. An online profile describes the RBT as a behavior analyst. Which action best avoids misrepresentation?

- **A** Add “in training” after the title, since the qualifier makes the behavior analyst title accurate.
- **B** Leave the title as it is, since RBTs deliver behavior-analytic services and the public sees little difference.
- **C** Have the profile corrected to show the RBT credential, since the current title is a misrepresentation.
- **D** Keep the title on personal profiles, since credential rules cover work listings rather than personal pages.

4. A caregiver gives an RBT a $10 coffee card after a hard week. The employer bans all gifts from client families. What should the RBT do?

- **A** Accept because the amount meets the BACB limit
- **B** Decline and follow the stricter employer rule
- **C** Accept after noting it in a session record
- **D** Ask that it be given to the clinic team

5. A client's parent offers the RBT a paid weekend babysitting job. Which response best manages the risk?

- **A** Accept it for a short trial, watch whether objectivity suffers, and tell the supervisor if problems arise.
- **B** Decline, end services with the family right away, and tell the supervisor afterward to remove the conflict.
- **C** Decline the offer politely, tell the supervisor about it, and keep the relationship professional.
- **D** Accept the offer, keep it separate from sessions, and avoid mentioning it so the service is not affected.

6. At the end of a school consultation, a teacher hands Jonah a handwritten note with no money or gift card. The agency permits noncash notes. Which choice best matches Code 2.0?

- **A** Refuse every appreciation note
- **B** Keep the handwritten note
- **C** Request a store gift card
- **D** Treat it as clinic wages

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7. A caregiver brings Marco small store coupons after nearly every session. Each coupon is low value, but Marco now expects them. Which concern should he recognize?

- **A** Treat each coupon alone
- **B** Accept them after work
- **C** Recognize repeated value
- **D** Move them to the clinic

8. A clinic handbook says RBTs may not accept gifts from families. A parent offers Leila a $5 coffee card and says the BACB allows small gifts. What should Leila do?

- **A** Accept because it is low value
- **B** Save it for a later week
- **C** Give it to another RBT
- **D** Follow the clinic policy

9. During a staff celebration, Elena's BACB-required supervisor gives her a $30 gift basket connected to her RBT work. What response best fits Code 2.0?

- **A** Accept it at the staff party
- **B** Decline the gift basket
- **C** Save it for another day
- **D** Share it with coworkers

10. A caregiver repeatedly brings small thank-you items after sessions. Which issue should the RBT consider?

- **A** Task analysis order
- **B** Free-operant choice
- **C** Cumulative gift risk
- **D** Permanent product count

11. After a holiday session, a caregiver offers an RBT a $40 gift card and says the agency allows only small occasional gifts. What response fits the BACB rule?

- **A** Accept because it is seasonal
- **B** Decline the gift card politely
- **C** Trade it for a larger item
- **D** Keep it without telling anyone

12. An RBT's social media bio says "BCBA candidate" though the RBT is not in a BCBA program. Which issue is tested?

- **A** Preference assessment
- **B** Public statements
- **C** Chaining method
- **D** Interval recording

Answer key and explanations

1. Correct answer: D · Accept it graciously unless a stricter employer policy applies, since it has no monetary value.

RBTs do not give gifts to, or accept gifts from, clients, stakeholders, or supervisors worth more than US$10 (or the equivalent). An occasional thank-you within that limit is acceptable, ongoing gifts may become a violation if they turn into a regularly expected source of value, and a stricter employer policy is followed (1.11). Check each gift's value, whether gifts are becoming routine, and any stricter employer policy.

Task: F.8

2. Correct answer: A · Decline the restaurant card

RBT Ethics Code 2.0 item 1.11 says RBTs do not accept gifts from clients or stakeholders with a monetary value over $10 US dollars.

Task: F.8

3. Correct answer: C · Have the profile corrected to show the RBT credential, since the current title is a misrepresentation.

RBTs keep identifying client information off social media and websites (2.09), discuss client information only under their supervisor's direction (2.10), and avoid false, misleading, or exaggerated claims about their credentials or services (1.05). Keep clients off social media, and make only accurate claims about credentials and services.

Task: F.6

4. Correct answer: B · Decline and follow the stricter employer rule

Item 1.11 requires following a stricter workplace gift policy.

Task: F.8

5. Correct answer: C · Decline the offer politely, tell the supervisor about it, and keep the relationship professional.

RBTs avoid multiple relationships with clients, stakeholders, coworkers, and supervisors, including people closely associated with a client. If one develops, they tell the supervisor immediately, work to resolve it, and document these actions; if it involves the supervisor, they report it to the supervisor's manager or HR and document that (1.10). The issue is risk and conflict—not simply whether two people meet outside session.

Task: F.7

6. Correct answer: B · Keep the handwritten note

RBT Ethics Code 2.0 item 1.11 permits an occasional expression of gratitude when it does not financially benefit the recipient.

Task: F.8

7. Correct answer: C · Recognize repeated value

RBT Ethics Code 2.0 item 1.11 says ongoing or cumulative gifts may become a violation if they become expected income or value.

Task: F.8

8. Correct answer: D · Follow the clinic policy

RBT Ethics Code 2.0 item 1.11 requires following stricter employer policy on gift exchange.

Task: F.8

9. Correct answer: B · Decline the gift basket

RBT Ethics Code 2.0 item 1.11 says RBTs do not accept gifts from supervisors with a monetary value over $10 US dollars.

Task: F.8

10. Correct answer: C · Cumulative gift risk

Repeated gifts can create cumulative ethics concerns under Code 2.0 standard 1.11.

Task: F.8

11. Correct answer: B · Decline the gift card politely

Ethics Code 2.0 item 1.11 sets the gift limit at $10 US dollars and says stricter employer rules apply.

Task: F.8

12. Correct answer: B · Public statements

Credentials and professional activities must be represented truthfully under Code 2.0 standard 1.05.

Task: F.6

Study tips

- When a boundary question appears, ask what the policy requires before deciding what feels kind.
- Treat any offer of paid work or a gift from a client family as a question for the supervisor first.
- Keep client information private, including in personal social media posts.
- Remember that a good answer protects the client's dignity and the professional role together.

FAQ

Can an RBT accept a small gift from a family?

It depends on the employer's policy. The RBT should check the policy and consult the supervisor before accepting any gift.

Is babysitting a client's family a boundary issue?

Yes. Taking outside paid work with a client's family can create a dual relationship, so it should be reviewed with the supervisor first.

Are social media posts about clients allowed?

Client information and images should not be shared without the proper consent and employer approval. When in doubt, do not post.

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