



Psychological Testing for Kids

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Call today to
schedule a free 15-minute
phone consultation to discuss
your needs & questions about
psychological evaluation
for your child.

When, why, and how to have your child tested

If you have concerns about your child's development, behavior, academic performance, or social-emotional functioning, testing can shed light on why he/she is struggling and provide a wealth of information to assist with an accurate diagnosis, facilitate treatment planning, and obtain appropriate educational services, accommodations, and supports.

The evaluation process usually takes a few weeks to complete and involves a variety of procedures including a parent interview, social and developmental history, review of records, parent and teacher rating scales, behavioral observations, and 5 to 6 hours of one-on-one testing with your child.

Testing can be tailored to answer unique questions about your child. In general, a comprehensive test battery will assess your child's intellectual ability, attention, learning and memory, academic skills, language, executive functions (such as planning

and organization), fine motor skills, processing speed, visual-spatial perception, and social-emotional functioning.

The results are interpreted in the context of your child's age, gender, and developmental history and written into a detailed report that will be discussed with you in a feedback conference where all of your questions can be answered.

The report will include a description of your child's strengths, weaknesses, and distinct learning profile. Suggestions for what you can do to help your child and recommendations for treatment and educational programming will be provided.

Referrals to other professionals, such as a speech-language pathologist, occupational therapist, child psychiatrist, or counselor, may also be shared for ongoing help and support with your child's behavior and development.

Frequently asked Questions

What is the cost of a private psychological evaluation and will it be covered by my health insurance?

The cost of evaluation services varies based upon the individual needs of each client, the nature of the presenting problem, and the time required to answer your referral questions.

Dr. Ezrine requires payment at the time of services and is not in any insurance plan networks. She accepts cash, check, and credit cards.

Dr. Ezrine will provide you with the billing and medical information you will need should you choose to seek reimbursement from your insurance company. Please know that many insurance companies do not cover testing for developmental delays or learning issues as they deem these services 'educational' rather than 'medical'.

Can I get an evaluation for free through the public school system?

Yes, regardless of income or whether or not your child is currently enrolled in a public school, you have the right to request a free public-school based evaluation to determine if your child has a disability and is in need of special education and/or related services. The first step in the process of seeking a public evaluation is to contact your school district's special education department.

For more information, a great resource is the book Straight Talk about Psychological Testing for Kids by E. Braaten & G. Felopoulos (Guilford Press, 2004).

There are many reasons for choosing private evaluation services from a qualified professional for your child. The process of having an evaluation through the school system often takes a long time. You may also be aware that a school system report automatically becomes part of your child's school record and will not include formal diagnoses, such as dyslexia, autism, and/or ADHD, though the results may clearly indicate that these diagnoses apply. With a private evaluation, you choose the professional who will conduct the testing and have control over when the testing takes place and who sees the report. Additionally, a private evaluator is often able to provide a more comprehensive evaluation to assess concerns that may not be directly relevant to your child's functioning at school.

My child has already been tested before. When and why is a re-evaluation necessary?

If you have ongoing concerns or your child has been diagnosed with a disability and receives therapeutic and/or special education services, a follow-up evaluation is commonly recommended every two to three years. A re-evaluation will provide information about your child's current levels of functioning, allow for progress monitoring of interventions, and help determine if support services continue to be needed. Additionally, if your child needs to apply for test accommodations on college entrance exams (SAT/ACT), he/she will need to have an evaluation that was completed in the preceding two years.

ABOUT DR. EZRINE

Dr. Ezrine is a licensed psychologist and certified school psychologist in the state of Georgia. She has been awarded the designation of Nationally Certified School Psychologist (NCSP) and is a member of both the Georgia and American Psychological Associations.

Dr. Ezrine has specialized training in both education and psychology. She holds a Masters in Education from Harvard University and a PhD in School Psychology, with a specialty in developmental neuropsychology, from Georgia State University. Prior to starting her private practice, Dr. Ezrine was employed as a lead psychologist in a public therapeutic school program for children with severe learning, emotional, and behavioral disorders.

Dr. Ezrine specializes in the assessment of learning, attention, behavioral, social-emotional, and developmental challenges in youth ranging in age from preschool to early adulthood. In a comfortable and supportive atmosphere, Dr. Ezrine's goal is to help parents understand why their child is struggling and to develop recommendations for treatment and educational strategies that nurture strengths, compensate for weaknesses, and support identified areas of need.

