

PSYCHOEDUCATIONAL EVALUATION RESOURCES

What is a **psychoeducational evaluation**?

A psychoeducational evaluation is an assessment by a trained professional that uses a battery of normed tests and tools that measure cognitive ability, academic achievement, memory, attention and concentration, socio-emotional functioning, and personality. These evaluations are used to diagnose and treat, among other things: cognitive impairment, specific learning disabilities (e.g., reading, math, writing), Attention Deficit/Hyperactivity Disorder (ADHD), and mood disorders.

What is the **cost** of a psychoeducational evaluation?

The cost of a psychoeducational evaluation varies based on a number of factors (e.g., whether the assessor is individually licensed or supervised by a licensed professional, the number of tests administered). Insurance, oftentimes, does not cover a full psychoeducational evaluation so the cost will be come out of pocket. A licensed clinical psychologist may charge \$2000-\$3000 for an evaluation; whereas an evaluation by a supervised student may cost \$300 at a training clinic using a sliding fee scale.

Students often opt to use training clinics for their evaluations due to their limited income. Because of that, waiting lists at these training clinics may be long – around 6 months. The wait list for private evaluations is usually less considerable. Keep in mind that student trainee evaluations may also have a longer turnaround time, in general, even once off of the waiting list, depending on the rhythm of the student trainee’s schedule, semester breaks, etc.

What can I expect from a psychoeducational evaluation?

Psychoeducational evaluations often take place over the course of multiple visits that can be separated into three categories: the initial interview, one or more testing sessions, and a feedback session. During the initial interview, the clinician will ask you questions about your demographics and family history, the reason you are requesting an evaluation, and will inquire about details related to your experience of the presenting problem. During the testing sessions, you can expect to participate in a variety of tasks: some tasks will measure verbal ability, others will require you to perform math equations, you may complete a number of self-report measures that assess your attention and concentration and/or your mood, affect, and personality. The battery of tests that are administered to you will depend on the presenting problem- the reason you are requesting an evaluation.

At times during the assessment, you *may* feel frustrated or that you are underperforming. That is normal and the tests are designed that way- not to make you feel inferior- but to measure, accurately, the floor and ceiling of your abilities and aptitude. You can request a break when you need one, especially if you are feeling fatigued or need to pause and work through your emotions.

ATTENTION DEFICIT/HYPERACTIVITY (ADHD) EVALUATION RESOURCES

What is an ADHD evaluation?

An ADHD evaluation is a specific type of psychological assessment that measures symptoms of ADHD, Inattentive, Hyperactive, and Combined types. It does not assess for other disorders or disabilities, although occasionally they may screen for conditions that can mimic ADHD, such as anxiety or depression.

What is the **cost of an ADHD evaluation?**

Some insurance companies cover some or all of the evaluation cost; others do not cover them at all. The provider or the provider's agency will be able to tell you whether or not your evaluation will be covered by insurance.

If the evaluation is not covered by insurance, the out of pocket cost for an ADHD evaluation varies but is oftentimes less than a full psychoeducational evaluation. Your provider options are similar to your psychoeducational evaluation options: private providers or a training clinic. Training clinics often operate on a sliding fee scale. Again, there is usually a longer wait list (up to 6 months, sometimes more) for training clinic evaluations.

What can I expect from an ADHD evaluation?

ADHD evaluation protocols vary by providers/agencies. In some instances, ADHD evaluations may take place over just a few hours; whereas in other instances, the evaluation may take place over more than one day.

The evaluation may consist of one or more tests assessing executive functioning (i.e., planning, organizing, sustaining attention, impulse control). Some evaluations will require one or more individuals close to you to complete measures. Your provider will provide more information regarding what to expect from the evaluation process.

AUTISM SPECTRUM DISORDER (ASD) EVALUATION RESOURCES

What is an ASD evaluation?

An ASD evaluation is a specific type of psychological assessment that measures symptoms of the Autism Spectrum Disorder. It does not typically assess for other disorders or disabilities.

What is the **cost of an ASD evaluation?**

Some insurance companies cover some or all of the evaluation cost; others do not cover them at all. The provider or the provider's agency will be able to tell you whether or not your evaluation will be covered by insurance. If the evaluation is not covered by insurance, the out of pocket cost for an ASD evaluation varies but is oftentimes less than a full psychoeducational evaluation.

Your provider options are similar to your psychoeducational evaluation options: private providers or a training clinic. Training clinics often operate on a sliding fee scale. Again, there is usually a longer wait list (up to 6 months, sometimes more) for training clinic evaluations.

What can I expect from an ASD evaluation?

ASD evaluation protocols vary by providers/agencies. In some instances, ASD evaluations may take place over just a few hours; whereas in other instances, the evaluation may take place over more than one day. The evaluation may consist of one or more tests assessing social communication functioning. Occasionally some of these evaluations may include observational methods to ensure accurate diagnosis.

Some evaluations will require one or more individuals close to you to complete measures. Your provider will provide more information regarding what to expect from the evaluation process.

Additional Information Pertaining to Evaluations and Accommodations:

1. If you have not already done so, you should familiarize yourself with the Office for Academic Success's process for requesting accommodations. This link is helpful: <https://www.salus.edu/Life/Student-Services/OAS/Services.aspx>
2. You should also familiarize yourself with the documentation requirements for receiving accommodations. You may wish to share this information with your clinician prior to your first payment to ensure that the evaluation fits the requirements of the university. You can find the requirements here: <https://www.salus.edu/Life/Student-Services/OAS/Documentation-and-Grievances.aspx>
3. If you have any follow up questions pertaining to Salus specific policies and procedures pertaining to processes pertaining to accommodations and/or required documentation, please contact Dean James Caldwell: jcaldwell@salus.edu
4. If you have any follow up questions pertaining to evaluation options/processes or referrals, please contact Dr. Tami April-Davis: tdavis@salus.edu or Dr. Molly Marcus: mmarcus@salus.edu

Referrals:

Private Evaluations:

Growth Opportunity Center:

<https://www.gocenter.net>

928 Jaymor Road; B-150

Southampton, PA 18966

(215) 947-8654

**Growth Opportunity Center hires individually licensed providers who conduct evaluations and the organization also trains student clinicians at various points in their programs (i.e., practicum students, pre-doctoral interns, postdoctoral fellows). GOC accepts some insurance plans for ADHD and ASD evaluations. If your cost is out of pocket for an evaluation, the fee range will vary based on the clinician's level of training. More specifically, your out of pocket cost will be considerably lower if a practicum student evaluates you versus an independently licensed psychologist. All trainees are supervised by licensed clinicians.

Lifescance Health:

www.lifescance.com

Multiple locations

Training Clinics:

Psychological Services Clinic of Chestnut Hill College

<https://www.chc.edu/psychological-services-clinic>

1107 Bethlehem Pike

Flourtown, PA 19031

(215) 233-1914

LaSalle University: Community Center for Psychological Services

<https://www.lasalle.edu/doctor-of-psychology/training-clinic/>

1900 West Olney Avenue

Philadelphia, PA 19141

(215) 951-1006

West Chester University: Community Mental Health Services

<https://www.wcupa.edu/sciences-mathematics/psychology/PsyD/mentalHealthServices/assessmentTesting.aspx>

125 West Rosedale Avenue

Wayne Hall, 8th Floor

West Chester, PA 19382

(610) 436-2510

Other referrals:

https://sites.temple.edu/psc/files/2021/10/Adult-Neuropsych-Referrals_9-23-2021.pdf