



Comprehensive Psychological and Educational Evaluations Q&A

What is a comprehensive psychoeducational evaluation?

- The model of a comprehensive psychoeducational evaluation includes a psychologist and an educator working as a diagnostic team.
- A typical battery of psychological tests assesses cognitive domains (e.g., attention, language, memory, visual processing, reasoning ability, speed, and fine-motor skills), and social/emotional functioning. The parents are given a selection of behavioral questionnaires at the time of intake which they and the primary teacher complete and return to the psychologist. These measures assess social and behavioral functioning and gather information about the child's performance in multiple environments on a daily basis.
- The Educational Specialist will assess academic achievement (e.g., reading, writing, math), as well as visual-motor functioning (e.g., handwriting), phonological processing abilities, and organization skills necessary for performing academic tasks. Educational Specialists must, at minimum, hold a master's degree and have extensive clinical experience developing their skill set. Educational Specialists have expertise in the treatment of learning disabilities and academic interventions. They are well connected with the educational resources of our community.

Why is a comprehensive evaluation necessary for my child?

- Both psychological and educational data **must be gathered** in order to provide the following:
 - diagnostic clarification for a variety of conditions (e.g., ADHD, dyslexia),
 - targeted treatment interventions for specific areas of weakness,
 - providing documentation for the purpose of receiving accommodations in school settings or for standardized tests (e.g., SAT)
- Private evaluations are designed to provide high quality clinical services to ensure that children are able to reach their highest potential. This differs from the kinds of evaluations and services that are available through special education supports at local public schools. Public schools are able to provide high quality evaluations to students that meet formalized eligibility requirements, and these students typically must have a history of learning deficits which are negatively impacting their ability to meet grade-level expectations.
- Any testing by the psychologist for educational purposes (e.g. to determine if a child has a learning disability) is **NOT** covered by insurance because it is not considered medically necessary (e.g., other exclusions include vocational testing, forensic evaluation, or custody evaluation). **Educational services are not billable to insurance plans.**

What are the costs of comprehensive psychological and educational evaluation?

- Psychological services may be billable to insurance plans. **Some** insurance plans will cover services. There is no guarantee of coverage, as many procedures are 'diagnosis driven' or a deductible may apply before any coverage is provided. It is important to contact your insurance carrier to ask your coverage. Many of our psychologists are in-network with BCBS and Aetna.
- Take the time to review the Financial Policy. **All Educational services and Resource Fees are not filed to insurance carriers and are paid at the time of service.** A resource fee is charged for all Educational Evaluations and all Psychological Evaluations. Fees are included in the ranges below. All or some of the Psychological services may not be covered by insurance. We are in-network with most BCBS and Aetna plans and offer in-network discounts of approximately 30% for qualifying plans.

Estimated Cost

Service	Comprehensive Evaluation
Educational Testing (not billable to insurance)	\$630 - \$960
Psychological Testing (billable to insurance)	\$1,520 – 2,160
Total	\$2,150 - \$3,120

- If you need a letter related to specific diagnostic information for the purposes of medical treatment, and physician will be waiting on the results, please let us know in the beginning and we can provide that documentation, for an additional fee. The **final report will take several more weeks (3-4)** to collate and finalize. You will receive a comprehensive written report detailing and summarizing the components of the evaluation, as well as recommendations for what needs to be done next.
- The report is typically sent to the parents via U.S. mail, and can also be faxed to physician's offices or schools as formally requested via authorization to release information. The report is not released to any entity without the guardian's express written consent.