

## Fee Information

### Therapy:

Initial Session	\$175.00
Subsequent Sessions	\$150.00

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Psychological testing services are available for children starting at age 18 months. Testing batteries are individualized to address specific presenting problems. Common referrals for psychological testing include concerns about ADHD, learning disabilities, emotional/behavioral problems, social difficulties, autism, or developmental delays. A typical psychological testing battery includes a comprehensive evaluation of the following domains of functioning: intellectual abilities, academic achievement, attentional/executive functioning, memory, social cognition and emotional/behavioral functioning across settings. Autism assessment typically requires more specific testing.

Testing sessions for children are usually scheduled on Saturdays, and the overall number of testing hours varies, depending on the presenting problem and the child's age. Once the testing has been completed, it is possible to obtain an overall profile of a child's strengths and weaknesses and to provide specific recommendations for educational and treatment planning. In addition, the test can help determine how a child processes different types of information and his/her problem solving skills. The child's testing profile is shared with parents, schools, service agencies, and the child, when age appropriate, during subsequent feedback session(s). Also, diagnostic assessment for some services (e.g., particularly autism) can only be provided by this type of testing. In general, psychological testing can provide rich information to help guide parents and teachers in helping children fulfill their potential, as well as provide diagnostic impressions and treatment recommendations.

## Fees

It is important to us that you understand any charges ahead of time. We believe that fees should be addressed up-front per ethical guidelines. Among other valid reasons, fees conversations have been known to interfere with the therapeutic process. To this end, the office manager will be happy to discuss fees when you phone and will at times initiate the payment topic in order to make it easier for our patients. Fees for testing will be identified prior to assessment. The fee structure compares favorably to the usual and customary charges for professional services from doctors with the level of training and credentials.

Specific charges will depend upon the types and length of services provided. For example, a full psychological evaluation for autism costs approximately \$1,200.00 - \$1,500.00 depending on the number and type of tests needed. Per the Best Practices of Autism Assessment standards, we assess/estimate cognition, developmental, adaptive, social-emotional functioning, as well as obtain autism data through multiple measures, settings (if possible) and respondents. We believe in a multi-disciplinary approach and additional testing by other providers (e.g., speech-language, neurology/physician, occupational therapy, etc.) might be recommended. The results of assessment(s) are integrated and provided in a comprehensive report, which can then be utilized for service delivery initiation, treatment recommendations, IEP data, etc. In terms of actual price, we

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encourage our patients to conduct an 'internet search' for comparable evaluations as our fees are significantly lower than most at this time.

It is expected that payment will be made at the time services are rendered. We now accept most major credit cards. We desire payment in full at the time of testing, if unable to do so, please speak with Dr. Marsiglia during your initial visit.

Please note that the testing hours include time for administration, scoring (plus the fees for scoring in some instances), interpretation and report writing.

## **Insurance**

At the present time we do not accept direct payments from insurance companies (except TriCare). We provide the documentation needed so that you may file claims with your insurance company. Once fees are paid, then the patient is eligible for reimbursement dependent on the provisions of the individual insurance company.

ADD/ADHD: Louisiana law requires that any insurance company that provides medical insurance in this state must pay for evaluation for ADD/ADHD, even if no other mental health services are covered. Unfortunately, that law preceded the formation of HMOs, which may be exempted.

AUTISM. Since autism is a medical diagnosis, many insurance plans will/must provide reimbursement for the diagnostic evaluation, which incorporates extended developmental testing. We provide our patients full documentation once fees are paid in full, to include a rationale for testing, a letter for insurance, billing summary with CPT codes, etc.

Military: Our office proudly accepts payments from military TriCare standard and TriCare Prime. Due to the scarcity of autism expertise, we remain committed to accept and prioritize developmental assessments for childhood disorders. We salute TriCare as being THE leader in the field of autism and believe they set the Gold Standard by which other insurance companies can benefit from their model. We regret that due to the great demand for developmental/childhood assessments, at times we are unable to accept new TriCare patients for therapy. Our office manager can tell you the status of accepting patients for therapy.

HMOs: Unfortunately, the limits HMOs impose for mental health services at times mandate compromising services and patient care. As such, we have chosen to decline HMO provider membership. However, our patients oftentimes independently obtain authorization from their HMOs to cover the cost of our services especially due to the limited availability of psychological services in this area and due to the autism specialization. You may contact your company to inquire about their reimbursement procedures.

Medicaid: Louisiana law just recently initiated Medicaid reimbursement for psychological services; however the fee structure is such that participation in the Medicaid program is not feasible at this time.