



## **PSYCHOLOGICAL EVALUATIONS**

Psychological evaluations are often unfamiliar to many people. We hope to take the confusion out of the process for you.

### **I. COVERAGE AND FEES**

- Some psychological evaluations are determined “medically necessary” and offer information on diagnoses, treatment and individual strengths to aide and further treatment. Your insurance can be billed for those evaluations or pieces of it. To assist you, we will call your insurance ahead of time to let you know what is and is not covered and what part you will be responsible for. Some people prefer to pay cash for evaluations and not have it billed to insurance companies for their confidentiality.
- ***Some components of psychological evaluations are not covered*** (or not completely) by health insurance, yet the psychologist determines these tests are essential for further information. Examples are:
  1. Academic or educational testing focused on identifying processing problems and/or learning differences
  2. Going deeper to provide specific information about FUNCTIONAL difficulties and what to do about them
  3. Cost for tests and materials
  4. Obtaining information from physicians, schools or other resources and linking with them
  5. Time necessary to write up the evaluation
  6. Time to provide results and recommendations

**At New Directions, our evaluations are very individualized and provide extensive practical applications targeted to your child’s specific needs. Given the fact that insurance companies do not completely cover these extensive evaluations, it is necessary for New Directions to charge an additional fee for evaluations. This amount is typically between \$150 and \$300. We will expect you to pay \$150.00 up front, (above insurance or co-pay amounts), and we will let you know of any additional charges after the evaluation is completed. The written evaluation will not be released until fees are received.**

## **II. PROCESS AND PROCEDURES**

### **What happens during an evaluation?**

A psychological evaluation is usually scheduled in 2 (rarely, 3) appointments.

- For new clients there is an initial 1 hour intake to identify clinical issues and to identify the needs in order to complete the evaluation, though clients who are already being served by New Directions will usually not require this intake session, because the evaluator will receive information from the referring therapist.
- Then a 5 hour block of time is set aside to complete the data collection with the client, though clients are usually here approximately 3 hours of that block. While parents/guardians may not need to be here the entire time, there are often evaluation tools for you to complete during that time as well.
- Depending on the needs of the client this testing period may need to be divided into two separate sessions.
- Scoring, interpreting data and write up will take approximately 4 weeks, and a follow up session will be set up with you at the time you are seen for the evaluation.

**We look forward to serving you, professionally and with excellence!  
We appreciate the privilege.**