

Learning Disorders Evaluation Services at Inova Kellar Center

Inova Kellar Center provides comprehensive psychoeducational evaluations for children and adolescents between the ages of 6 and 18 years who may have learning difficulties that interfere with academic functioning.

What are learning disorders and disabilities?

Individuals with learning disorders or disabilities display difficulties in learning basic academic skills. These difficulties may include problems with:

- Listening
- Speaking
- Writing
- Spelling
- Performing mathematical calculations
- Performing tasks requiring the use of numerical reasoning skills

These problems may have a subtle or severe impact on the learning process. Furthermore, learning disorders not only affect a child or adolescent's ability to learn, but they may also affect social interactions and feelings of self-worth.

How are leaning disorders diagnosed?

At Inova Kellar Center licensed clinical psychologists with expertise in learning disorders or individuals under their supervision conduct comprehensive evaluations for learning disorders. Research indicates that evaluations that use information from a variety of sources are the most helpful in diagnosing learning disorders. This philosophy guides the staff at Inova Kellar Center, and we obtain information from multiple sources including parents or guardians, teachers, and the child.

What is the evaluation process?

1. Initially, we schedule an appointment with the child/adolescent and the child/adolescent's parents to:

- Review concerns
 - Complete an in-depth interview of the child
 - Fill out a short symptom-based checklist, which focuses on attention disorder symptoms.
2. We schedule a second appointment with only the parent(s) to:
 - Review additional information not discussed in the initial meeting
 - Talk through the evaluation plan
 - Discuss costs associated with the evaluation

This session is billed as a “Family Therapy w/o Patient” appointment (CPT code 90846).

3. If indicated, we schedule a minimum of two three-hour evaluation sessions. We typically schedule these sessions during morning hours so as to obtain the “best level of functioning.” Additional time may be required if we are completing an attention disorders evaluation at the same time.
4. The child/adolescent’s parent(s) and teacher(s) complete behavior rating scales, and we ask parents to provide copies of school records.
5. We schedule a final appointment to review the evaluation results and intervention recommendations. We encourage parents to share the evaluation report with school officials.

What evaluation instruments do you use?

We use a variety of diagnostic measures when assessing learning disorders. A core group of tests are administered regardless of the presenting concerns, and we subsequently select more specific measures on the basis of identified areas of weakness. The most commonly used diagnostic measures are listed below.

Core instruments include:

- Wechsler Intelligence Scale for Children, 5th Edition (WISC-V): ages 6 to 16
- Wechsler Adult Intelligence Test, 4th Edition (WAIS-IV): ages 16 and up.
- Woodcock-Johnson-IV Tests of Achievement
- Beery-Buktenica Developmental Test of Visual-Motor Integration (VMI)
- Child Behavior Checklist (plus other behavior rating scales if also assessing an attention disorder)
- Teacher Rating Form (plus other behavior rating scales if also assessing an attention disorder)

Other instruments, administered on the basis of identified problem areas, include:

- Woodcock-Johnson-IV Tests of Cognitive Ability

- Auditory Discrimination Test
- Jordan Left-Right Reversal Test, 3rd Edition
- Wechsler Individual Achievement Test-IV
- Gray Oral Reading Test-V
- Test of Written Language, 4th Edition
- Test of Reading Comprehension
- Gray Silent Reading Test

If an attention disorders evaluation is required:

- Test of Variables of Attention

What is the cost of the evaluation?

The evaluation's cost is approximately \$4,070. However, the actual cost may be lower or higher depending on the needs of the individual being evaluated.

The cost of the evaluation covers:

- The initial assessment interview
- A review of the developmental history and school records
- Administration of the diagnostic measures
- Scoring of the measures
- Interpretation of the test findings
- Report write-up
- A summary conference with the parent(s)

A portion of the diagnostic procedures may be covered by your insurance company. You should determine your specific benefits and coverage prior to the evaluation using the following diagnostic codes where applicable:

- **One** initial assessment interview (\$350, CPT code 90791)
- **One** follow-up appointment (\$210, CPT code 90846)
- **12.5** hours of psychological testing (\$2,510, CPT codes 96130, 96131, 96136, 96137)
- **Five** hours of educational testing (**\$1,000**), which is not covered through insurance
- **One** review summary (CPT codes 96130 and 96131), which is covered through insurance.

Patients are required to pay psychological testing hours not approved by their insurance company due to a denial of a preauthorization request, as a result of testing not being a covered benefit or due to annual limitations.

Payment for noninsurance-covered services is expected at the time of each appointment. Should you need to finance the cost of the noninsurance-covered

services, payment may be made over a three-month period or longer through the use of Medi-Credit (call 571.423.5802).

Figures in **bold** indicate minimum out-of-pocket expenses.

In the event that an attention disorders evaluation (AD/HD) is simultaneously required, additional psychological tests and behavior rating scales billed at a rate of **\$200 per hour for three hours** (CPT codes 96130, 96131, 96136, 96137) totaling **\$600** will be added to the above total. These costs may be insurance reimbursable.

How do I schedule an evaluation?

If you suspect that your child or adolescent may have a learning disorder, have questions about the evaluation process, or would like to schedule an appointment, please contact the Inova Kellar Center at 703.218-8500.