



ASSESSMENT AND LEARNING CENTER

Department of Interdisciplinary and Inclusive Education

201 Mullica Hill Rd, Glassboro, NJ 08028 - 856-256-4512

NJ Dept of Education Approved Agency

- **Independent Child Study Team Evaluations** – Approved by the NJDOE as an independent Child Study Team clinic, providing certified professionals in a multi-disciplinary team approach.
- **Learning Assessments** – An in depth educational evaluation which measures current levels of academic achievement as well as learning strengths and weaknesses through a variety of testing modules.
- **Psychological Assessments** – An assessment of cognitive functioning, emotional status and social/adaptive skills. Experienced personnel qualified to assess Attention Deficit Hyperactivity Disorder, Autism/Pervasive Developmental Disorder, preschool and non-verbal children and gifted children.
- **Social Assessments** – A Licensed Clinical Social Worker is available to assess the complete social dynamics of the family.
- **Speech and Language Therapists** – Assessment of a child's skills in expressive and receptive language and articulation of speech.
- **Functional Behavioral Assessments** – An in depth analysis of students in a school based environment with extensive observations and interviews with appropriate staff.
- **Assistive Technology Assessments** – Focus on technology tools and methods that will help a child access the curriculum and succeed in school.
- **School Readiness Assessment** – Specialized evaluations are available to measure the developmental and behavioral levels of young children to determine their readiness for kindergarten and 1st grade programs.



Special Education Services

Supporting our most vulnerable population

The Rowan University Assessment and Learning Center is a service and student support unit affiliated with the department of Interdisciplinary and Inclusive Education. It is a state approved agency that can provide independent child study team evaluations. The center provides a range of services for clients of all ages, 2 through adulthood, seeking further information regarding educational, social, emotional, attention and developmental disorders. The center utilizes the expertise of New Jersey certified diagnosticians who have diverse backgrounds, training and many years of experience.

Independent evaluations are sometimes used to supplement the Child Study Team evaluations performed in the public schools and expanded in several directions. The Assessment Center has also contracted with school districts and agencies to provide specific training in the areas of Special Education and Grant Evaluations. The Center is the home base for Rowan University's Learning Consultants training program.





Parent Education

New Jersey Administrative Code for special education (N.J.A.C. 6A:14) and the federal Individuals with Disabilities Education Act of 2004 (IDEA 2004) are laws that ensure children with disabilities a free, appropriate public education in the least restrictive environment. An important part of these laws provides parents with the right to participate in their children's education. You and representatives of your school district are team members who are responsible for developing an appropriate educational program for your child. Federal laws and state codes affecting the provision of special education are in place to ensure your rights in the special education process. You are entitled to take an active role in your child's education. If you need additional help in understanding your rights, contact the Statewide Parent Advocacy Network (SPAN), Disability Rights New Jersey (DRNJ), and the County Offices of the New Jersey Department of Education at www.state.nj.us/education.

Independent Educational Evaluations (IEE)

Federal Regulations state unequivocally that parents of a child with a disability have a right to obtain an IEE. 34 C.F.R. 300.502(a)(1). An IEE is broadly defined as "an evaluation conducted by a qualified examiner who is not employed by the public agency responsible for the education of the child in question" 34 C.F.R. 300.502(a)(3)(i). An IEE may be obtained by parents at their own expense or at public expense.

Parents are not the only ones to find IEE's valuable. Sometimes, school districts request IEE's when they lack the personnel or expertise to conduct a particular type of evaluation. A school district may seek an IEE to relieve parental concerns about the fairness or accuracy of an evaluation.

The federal regulations direct school districts to inform parents of their right to obtain an IEE, where they may obtain an IEE and the agency criteria applicable to the IEE. 34 C.F.R. 300.502(a)(2).

In other words, the school district cannot simply refuse or ignore the parents' request for an independent evaluation. Even if the school district does not conduct an evaluation, the student's parents may be entitled to an IEE at public expense if the school district refused to conduct evaluations.

Finally, if a hearing officer orders an IEE during the course of a due process hearing, it will be conducted at public expense.

Independent educational evaluations can be a valuable tool for parents and school staff when used to determine a child's educational needs.

- **For more information about Rowan University's Assessment and Learning Center contact :**
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Secretary, Sue Kerr 856-256-4512

