Equitable Assessment in SLD Identification with English Learners

Presented by Samuel O. Ortiz, PhD

Science to Practice Forum
Thursday, October 7, 2021
2:00 p.m. to 4:00 p.m. Eastern Time Zone

Sponsored by
Learning Disabilities Association of America (LDA) and
Pearson Clinical Assessment

Overview
This course discusses research on language, cognitive, and academic development that underlie evaluation via an evidence-based framework to generate valid data that supports identification of specific learning disabilities (SLD) with English learners (ELs). Topics include limitations to current testing practices, methods for evaluating score validity, and use of comprehensive nondiscriminatory procedures. The knowledge and skills gained represent a systematic, defensible, and equitable basis for engaging in evaluation of ELs that constitutes current best practices.

Learner Outcomes
Based on the content of this workshop, participants will be able to:

1. Explain the advantages and limitations of traditional approaches to evaluation of individuals from diverse backgrounds.
2. Evaluate current research on the impact of culture and language on testing and how it highlights the limitations of various common testing practices.
3. Apply the process of conducting comprehensive and systematic evaluations of culturally and linguistically diverse learners.
4. Use an evidence-based method to address exclusionary criteria in SLD evaluation and as a procedure for evaluating test score validity in a nondiscriminatory manner.

Time-Ordered Agenda – Eastern Time Zone

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<tr>
<th>20 minutes</th>
<th>Foundations in Development and Testing</th>
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<tr>
<td>30 minutes</td>
<td>• Issues in first and second language acquisition</td>
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<td>• Understanding bias in testing</td>
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<td>• Test score validity</td>
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<td>• Establishing construct validity in testing</td>
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<td>30 minutes</td>
<td>• Use of the Culture-Language Interpretive Matrix (C-LIM) and Education-Language Interpretive Matrix (E-LIM)</td>
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The integration of Bilingual English-Spanish Assessment (BESA) and Ortiz Picture Vocabulary Acquisition Test (Ortiz PVAT) as models for tests with established validity

Comprehensive Framework for Testing

30 minutes

Framework for nondiscriminatory evaluation

Case study illustrations in testing

10 minutes

Q & A

About the Presenter

Dr. Ortiz is Professor of Psychology and former Director of the School Psychology Program at St. John's University, Queens, New York. He earned his PhD in Clinical Psychology from the University of Southern California and completed postdoctoral training in Bilingual School Psychology at San Diego State University where he also obtained certification as a school psychologist. In addition, he has served as Visiting Professor and Research Fellow at Nagoya University in Japan and as Vice President for Professional Affairs of Division 16 of APA beginning January 2003. Dr. Ortiz trains and consults nationally and internationally on topics ranging from nondiscriminatory assessment to contemporary evaluation of learning disabilities. He combines practical and research-based experience with specialized education and training in working with culturally and linguistically diverse children and parents. Dr. Ortiz is bilingual (Spanish) and bicultural (Puerto Rican).

Disclosure

Financial:
Dr. Ortiz is the author of the Ortiz Picture Vocabulary Acquisition Test (Ortiz PVAT) and the and receives a royalty for this product.

Non-financial disclosure:
Dr. Ortiz is a co-developer of the Culture-Language Interpretive Matrix C-LIM v2.0 (and the Education-Language Interpretive Matrix (E-LIM.) There are no relevant non-financial relationships to disclose for the BESA.

The Learning Disabilities Association of America (LDA) and Pearson Assessment Division are sponsors of the Science to Practice Forum. Pearson develops and distributes assessments and intervention tools for speech-language pathologists, occupational therapists, and psychologists. This course will only address appropriate and interpretation of the Bilingual English-Spanish Assessment (BESA, published by Brookes Publishing) the Ortiz Picture Vocabulary Acquisition Test (Ortiz PVAT, published by MHS Assessments,) and the C-LIM v. 2.0 and E-LIM (available for download by St. John's University.)- No other assessment will be discussed during this presentation.
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- Credentialed by a state regulatory agency to practice SLP or audiology
- Credentialed by a national regulatory agency to practice SLP or audiology
- Engaged in a Clinical Fellowship which is supervised by someone with their ASHA CCC
- Currently enrolled in a masters or doctoral program in SLP or audiology

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