

## Components of a Psychological Report : Handout and Guide (Brief Overview)

A Psychological report presents results of an evaluation and procedures used to determine eligibility for special education services. Different psychologists use different approaches to organizing and reporting results but most psychoeducational reports will include the following components:

Identifying Information : Student's Demographic Data; Dates of Evaluations; Language Preference.

Reason for Referral: Reasons for why the student is being referred for an evaluation. When more details are included in the reason for an evaluation, it will lead to more effective and useful conclusions.

Evaluation Process: Consists of a brief overview of the tests administered and sources of information (e.g. parent, teacher interviews, observations, review of records, etcetra), dates of assessment and evaluation.

Background Information: Includes an overview of the student's academic, cognitive, physical and social development. In addition, information may consist of medical and developmental history obtained from parents, school/health records. Intervention data and evidence based strategies that were implemented. This section may include previous evaluations that were conducted. This review provides a backdrop that is often useful in interpreting the student's performance in multiple settings.

Observations: Students are observed in a variety of settings (e.g. class, recess, home visits) including during the test sessions. These observations are summarized in the report. Often the information is needed to determine if the test results are valid and to determine if the evaluation results in accurate interpretations.

Test Interpretation & Results: The findings from all formal evaluations are described in detail, with tables and descriptions of the tests administered as well as descriptions of test scores, providing a range or confidence interval. The test scores provide information on how the student performed on a particular skill or ability. This is often the lengthiest and most detailed part of the report.

Summary & Recommendations: This section summarizes the results of the evaluation and answers the referral questions. Recommendations may be suggested along with helpful interventions that benefit parents, staff and student. If the report is part of a Multidisciplinary Evaluation Team (MET), for special education services, additional conclusions and recommendations are gathered from various team members and the team will meet to determine eligibility and recommend services.

For more resources visit:

[www.nasponline.org/culturalcompetence](http://www.nasponline.org/culturalcompetence)

[www.naspcenter.org/teachers/teachers.html](http://www.naspcenter.org/teachers/teachers.html)

[www.naspcenter.org/parents/parents.html](http://www.naspcenter.org/parents/parents.html)