

For more than 20 years, **William R. Stixrud and Associates** has conducted comprehensive neuropsychological assessments designed to clarify individual strengths and weaknesses in the areas of cognitive, academic, and emotional functioning.

Neuropsychological assessment helps identify inefficient brain functioning contributing to learning, social, and emotional difficulties.

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## Early Childhood Assessment Program



ECAP provides comprehensive, developmentally appropriate neuropsychological evaluation for children ages 3 - 8 yrs.

These services help to:

- Identify neurologically-based risk indicators and special needs in a timely manner
- Integrate services and implement evidence-based intervention to remedy learning and behavioral challenges
- Assist parents, educators, and others to “translate” intervention programs into the home and classroom

## Why are Early Identification and Intervention so Important?

Studies indicate that:

- Interventions are most effective when implemented at the earliest signs of difficulty
- Early intervention supports the unfolding of a multitude of developmental processes that occur during early childhood, including:
  - physical, behavioral, and emotional self-regulation
  - perspective-taking and empathy
  - social skills
  - mental flexibility and adapting to change

**The old “wait and see” approach – or assuming that children will grow out of problems – has given way to an “intervene early” approach.**

- By intervening early, we can help a child to “ride the wave” of normal neurological development and facilitate the growth of neurological structures that support learning
- Early identification can provide support before learning failure and other problems (e.g., low self-esteem, dislike for school, and academic frustration)

## What to expect::

A clinical interview with the psychologist, during which the child’s issues and developmental history are reviewed

A review of relevant information (e.g., behavioral checklists, background data, teacher checklists, and classroom information

Observation of the child within the appropriate context (e.g., preschool, day care, home)

Formal testing, as appropriate (e.g., intellectual functioning; communication/language; perceptual motor ability; phonological processing/pre-literacy; attention; executive function; social/adaptive functioning )

Interpretive conference

Comprehensive report, including history, test results, summary, & recommendations

### Other available services include:

- Assistance with school meetings
- Consultation with teachers & other service providers
- Parent support groups (to facilitate the implementation of recommendations)

## Staff:

**Dr. William R. Stixrud** is a licensed psychologist who has been in private practice as a neuropsychologist since 1985. He specializes in the evaluation of children, adolescents, and adults with learning disabilities. He is currently a member of the Clinical Supervisory Faculty at Children’s National Medical Center (CNMC), and he holds an appointment at George Washington University School of Medicine.

**Dr. Adam J. Sowa** is a licensed psychologist who has worked with Dr. Stixrud since 2001. He received his Ph.D. from Vanderbilt University, and during pre- and post-doctoral training he has evaluated children and worked with families on issues, including chronic illness, developmental and learning disabilities, and disruptive behavior disorders. Prior to joining William Stixrud & Associates, Dr. Sowa worked at the First State School, a school setting for chronically ill children. Additionally, he consulted with preschools in Wilmington, DE, and provided testimony to the state senate regarding the value of training for preschool teachers. Dr. Sowa specializes in the evaluation and treatment of children with learning disabilities, attention deficit hyperactivity disorder, and other developmental issues.