

Maine Association of School Psychologists

Nondiscriminatory Evaluation of Specific Learning Disability with English Learners: Application of a Pattern of Strengths and Weaknesses (PSW) Approach via the C-LIM and X-BASS

Presented By:
Samuel Ortiz, Ph.D.

Friday, April 27, 2018
8:30am to 4:00pm

Harraseeket Inn
Freeport, Maine

Presenter:

Dr. Ortiz is Professor of Psychology at St. John's University, New York. He holds a Ph.D. in clinical psychology from the University of Southern California and a credential in school psychology with postdoctoral training in bilingual school psychology from San Diego State University. He has served as Visiting Professor and Research Fellow at Nagoya University, Japan, as Vice President for Professional Affairs of APA Division 16 (School Psychology), as member and Chair of APA's, Committee on Psychological Tests and Assessment, as member of the Coalition for Psychology in Schools and Education, as representative on the New York State Committee of Practitioners on ELL and LEP Students, and as member of APA Presidential Task Force on Educational Disparities. Dr. Ortiz has served on various editorial boards including Journal of School Psychology, School Psychology Quarterly, and Journal of Applied School Psychology. He is an internationally recognized expert on a variety of topics including nondiscriminatory assessment, evaluation of English learners, cross-battery assessment (XBA), and learning disabilities. He is author of the Ortiz PVAT, primary author of X-BASS and his books include "Assessment of Culturally and Linguistically Diverse Students: A practical guide," and "Essentials of Cross-Battery Assessment, 3rd Edition." Dr. Ortiz is bilingual (Spanish) and bicultural (Puerto Rican).

Registration Information

Tuition Includes: Handouts,
Continental Breakfast and Lunch

MASP Member = \$175

MASP Non Member = \$225

Student = \$80

- **Online registration only. Register online at masponline.net**
- Payment or Purchase Order **must** accompany registration.
- Email POs to maineasp@gmail.com
- Payments for Purchase Orders must be received by the day of the conference.
- **Registration closes on April 20th.**

Cancellation Policy

If you need to cancel, you must submit written notification to MASP at least 10 days in advance for a full refund. **Cancellations with less than 10 days notice will receive a refund less the cost of food (typically \$50) and a \$25 processing fee.** Please email your request to maineasp@gmail.com.

Schedule

Registration: 8:00

Workshop: 8:30 to 12:00

Lunch: 12:00 to 1:00

Workshop: 1:00 to 4:00

Learning Objectives:

Participants will learn how to:

- Recognize the relevant variables that affect test score validity for culturally and linguistically diverse learners.
- Identify the advantages and limitations of typical approaches to evaluation of English learners.
- Establish appropriate expectations of test performance for English learners based on current and historical research.
- Learn how to apply and use the C-LIM (within X-BASS) and the Ortiz PVAT as tools for evaluating and establishing valid test scores.
- Use X-BASS to facilitate and support analysis of SLD via a PSW framework with English learners.
- Conduct comprehensive, systematic, and defensible evaluations of culturally and linguistically diverse learners.

Workshop Description:

This workshop will outline the critical issues involved in nondiscriminatory evaluation of Specific Learning Disability via a PSW model with English learners. A comprehensive, research-based method for assessment, including full operationalization of a systematic Pattern of Strengths and Weaknesses (PSW) model will be presented along with instruction on various Cross-Battery Assessment (XBA) methods, principles, and X-BASS software that assists interpretation and diagnosis. Particular emphasis will be placed on highlighting limitations of typical evaluation methods with English learners and use of the Culture-Language Interpretive Matrix (C-LIM) and Ortiz PVAT for addressing the concept of "difference vs. disorder. Participants will be given step-by-step instructions in the use of X-BASS to facilitate measurement of relevant abilities, evaluation of test score validity, organizing data for PSW analyses, various methods for generating necessary data via native language evaluation, PSW analyses, and interpretation for the purposes of conducting evaluations that meet legal requirements for a processing strengths and weaknesses approach. In addition, guided case study examples will be presented to further illustrate application of XBA and use of the software tools in evaluation of learning disability, including extensions for assessing the validity of test scores when working with English language learners. The knowledge and skills gained will be useful to practitioners at all levels and provides a solid base for engaging in evaluation of SLD via a PSW model that constitutes defensible and current best practices.

Important Information

Directions:

From the North: Take I-295 South to Exit 22. Take a right off the exit. Follow 1/2 mile to to stop light. The Harraseeket Inn will be directly in front of you.

From the South: Take I-95 North to Exit 52 Falmouth. Go through the tollbooth and take the exit for I-295 North. Take Exit 22. Take a left off the exit. Follow 1/2 mile to the stop light. The Harraseeket Inn will be in front of you.

Accommodations: Persons with physical disabilities who need accommodations should contact MASP maineasp@gmail.com for assistance so accommodations can be arranged.

CE Hours: The Maine Association of School Psychologists is approved by the National Association of School Psychologists and the Maine Board of Examiners of Psychologists to sponsor continuing education (CE) for psychologists. In keeping with requirements, CE is awarded in contact hours only and is awarded at the close of the day.