

## General Information

Harcourt Assessment Inc. extends you an invitation to join the standardization research team for *Wechsler Adult Intelligence Scale—Fourth Edition (WAIS—IV)* and *Wechsler Memory Scale—Fourth Edition (WMS—IV)*.

One of the primary revision goals is to ensure that the WMS—IV and the WAIS—IV examine the relationship between intellectual functioning and memory. This goal will be accomplished by co-norming both assessments. The WAIS—IV will provide a comprehensive assessment of cognitive ability across Verbal Comprehension, Perceptual Reasoning, Working Memory, and Processing Speed domains, with enhanced measures of fluid reasoning. The WMS—IV is being developed to identify more subtle deficits in memory functioning and enhancing differences between immediate and delayed recall measures.

## Background

Previous editions of the Wechsler Adult Intelligence Scale have been used to illustrate that "the structure of intellectual functioning in [High Functioning Autism] is quite different from what is the case for the general population" (Goldstein, 153) as well as for other disorders. New improvements in the WAIS—IV will allow for more accurate diagnosis of Autism and Asperger's spectrum disorders.

Because of your contributions and your facility's outstanding work with research, identification, diagnosis and treatment of Autism and Asperger's disorder, you have been selected to participate in the standardization phase of the WAIS—IV and WMS—IV.

## Client Demographics

Clients should come from a variety of ethnic, regional, and socioeconomic backgrounds. All clients must be between the ages of 16 and 40 and must be diagnosed with Autism or Asperger's disorder.

## Client Qualifications

In order to be eligible to participate in this research study, clients must meet the following criteria:

- Must meet the diagnostic criteria for Autistic Disorder as defined in the DSM-IV TR, **OR**
- Must meet the criteria for Asperger's disorder as defined in the DSM-IV TR.
- Must have a general cognitive ability score of  $\geq 70$  on a standardized, individually administered measure of intelligence, mental ability or general cognitive ability such as the WAIS—III, Stanford Binet—V, Wide Range Intelligence Test (WRIT), Reynolds Intellectual Assessment Scales (RIAS), or Kaufman Adult Intelligence Test (KAIT).
- Must not be diagnosed with another psychological or medical disorder or disease that might affect cognitive functioning.
  - Co-morbid learning disorders or language disorders may be acceptable, with approval from the research team.