

Frequently Asked Questions

1) Do you take insurance?

We do not take insurance. An invoice is provided at the end of each session with all of the information that is needed for you to submit to your insurance company.

2) What are your rates?

Each therapy session is \$140 per hour and each testing session is \$275 per hour. A school observation or a meeting at school is \$140.

3) When is payment due?

Payment is due at the end of each therapy session. Payment for testing is due once the testing has been completed.

4) What are typical reimbursement rates?

It is best to call your insurance company before you come for therapy or testing. We will be happy to provide you with the necessary codes to give to your insurance company.

5) How involved are the parents in the therapy process?

Parents come in for an initial meeting without their child to discuss their goals. For the second session Dr. Lyons will meet with your child. Parents are an important part of the therapy process and participate in part of each session with their child. The amount of time will vary depending on each individual child's needs.

6) How long will therapy take?

The length of therapy depends on the child's age and presenting problem. Some families come for 4-6 sessions and others are involved in longer term therapy. Sometimes families return for a few "tune up" sessions in the years after therapy has been completed.

7) How involved are the parents in the testing process?

Parents come in for an initial meeting without their child to discuss their goals for testing. Testing is then scheduled for their child. Testing will take place in the mornings, usually from 9-11am. The length of testing depends on the age and other contributing factors of the child. A younger child may only be able to test for an hour at a time, while an older child may be able to test for two or three hours. Older children generally need more testing sessions. Parents are welcome to watch the testing process through a two way window, sit in the waiting room, or return once testing is over. After testing is completed, an appointment for a feedback session with the parents will be scheduled.

8) How long will testing take?

As children are generally more alert in the morning testing takes place from 9-11am. The length of testing depends on the age and other contributing factors of the child. A younger child may only be able to test for an hour at a time, while an older child may be able to test for two or three hours. For a younger child, the average is 3-5 one hour sessions, while an older child the average is 4-6 two hour sessions.

9) Will you have any interaction with my child's school?

With your written permission and if you would like, I can conduct a school observation before meeting your child. This is a great time to observe your child in their school environment and also connect with the teacher. After testing is completed a school meeting can also be scheduled to discuss recommendations for your child.

10) My child has a session/testing set up at your office. What do I tell my child before they come to your office for the first time?

Children are often nervous about coming for an initial visit. For younger children it is important to reassure them that they are "not in trouble" and that you have met me to "check me out and all went well." A discussion around "Dr. Lyons meets with lots of different kids and has lots

of things to play with. She will also help us talk about feelings." For older children a more frank discussion about therapy or testing and how it may help. Older children often appreciate a short discussion about the particular issue that they are struggling with and how meeting with Dr. Lyons can help.

11) Do you have a cancellation policy?

We do allow 24 hours for cancellation. If it is not 24 hours in advance, then you will be billed in full for the missed session or the missed testing.

12) What's the difference between having an evaluation through my child's school and having it done at your office?

You can request in writing a "Case Study Evaluation" through your local public school. Often times schools try to implement strategies to help your child before agreeing to testing. If the school agrees to testing they have 60 school days to begin the process. The school's assessment will be focused on academics.

A private assessment is a comprehensive snapshot of your child's current abilities and encompasses cognitive, academic, attention, language, motor skills and emotional well-being. It will be conducted over multiple sessions in order to get the best performance from your child. Dr. Lyons will give families extensive feedback and recommendations. She can share this information with your school if you would like.

13) What is an IEP?

An IEP is an Individualized Educational Plan through the public school system. A child qualifies for an IEP if they meet criteria for a number of different learning differences. If your child qualifies for an IEP they are entitled to receive services through their public school. The services will be specified by area (educational support, speech therapy, occupational therapy, social work among others.) Goals will be determined and documented. A child will have a certain number of minutes per week for the services deemed appropriate.

14) What is a 504 plan?

If a child does not meet criteria for an IEP he or she may receive a 504 plan. The difference between an IEP and a 504 plan is that the IEP involves benchmark goals while the 504 plan does not.

15) Is it okay if my babysitter/nanny/grandparent/friend drops my child off?

Yes, it is okay, but it is always best if a parent is present at pick up time. This is a great time to discuss how the session went with your child. Working as a team is the best way to help your child.