



Why become an Educational Diagnostician?

- Do you want to make a *bigger* impact in the lives of *more* students?
- Are you interested in working with teachers and other school professionals to develop plans to help students with learning challenges succeed?
- Do you possess good organizational skills, with an interest in statistical and numerical information?
- Do you have an ability to relate well to multiple groups- including parents, administrators, professionals, and students of all ages?
- Do you possess the ability to handle multiple tasks simultaneously?

If you've answered *yes* to these questions, consider becoming an Educational Diagnostician.

The role of the educational diagnostician can vary among states and even between school districts. And even the title by which these professionals are known is often different. Regardless of their title, educational diagnosticians share an ability to assess and diagnose the learning problems of students. They are usually part of a multidisciplinary team, that is, professionals from several different backgrounds who utilize their particular skills and areas of expertise to make the best decisions for placing students with learning problems. Frequently, they are also key support personnel who counsel the children and consult with professionals, parents, and others on the child's progress.

What is the nature of an Educational Diagnostician job?

- Member of a student's interdisciplinary team; is often responsible for initial and ongoing psycho-educational assessment.
- Works collaboratively with other assessment personnel, such as speech/language therapists, occupational and physical therapists, and school psychologists, counselors, and social workers to determine eligibility for special education services.
- Provides input and recommendations to the IEP committee regarding student's academic strengths and weaknesses based on psycho-educational testing.
- Interprets results of psycho-educational testing in relation to student's educational placement and programming to parents, professionals, administrators, and students.
- Monitors student's educational progress in relation to his IEP goals and objectives, recommending appropriate modifications and accommodations to curricular content and instruction, as needed.
- Provides ongoing consultative services to school, community, and parents regarding student's educational needs.

Education Required

- Typically, state certifications require post graduate coursework in educational assessment, a teaching certificate, and classroom experience.
- Check with state requirements, as each may be different

Pros of an Educational Diagnostician Career

- Chance to have a positive impact in the lives of children with special needs
- Shortage of educational diagnosticians in many states makes this an in-demand career
- Opportunities for advancement into supervisory or administrative roles