

SERVICE OVERVIEW

EMAIL: INTAKE@ABILITYPSYCHOLOGYSERVICES.COM | PH: 1300 229 906

Ability Psychology Services offers psychological services to individuals and organisations across Queensland, Western Australia, Victoria, the Australian Capital Territory & online. APS works with an individual & their broader support network to meet referral goals, and frequently supports private referrals, Employment Service Providers, schools and NDIS Participants (self- or plan-managed). Ability is a mobile service and meets an individual at the third party provider (e.g., ESP or school), at home or online (telehealth), and caters to individuals across the lifespan (children, adolescents, adults).

PSYCHOLOGY SUPPORT

Per the APS National Schedule of Recommended Fees

Ability provides ongoing psychology services to support individuals in working towards their established referral goals and other therapeutic objectives. Appointments are available at a third party site, at our Herston office, at home, at school, or online (telehealth) as suitable for the Client, and are commonly scheduled on an ongoing weekly or fortnightly basis. During service delivery, we value a holistic approach to client-care and welcome liaison with informal and formal support persons or services who are also engaged in supporting the Participant.

When connecting an individual with psychological support, it is well placed to clarify the 'why' i.e. what is the objective of engagement in services? What would it look like for support provision to be 'successful' i.e. what would have changed? By clarifying the Client's goal for engagement upon referral, it assists our team in connecting them with the most suitable support (i.e. Practitioner, appointment frequency, and coordination of care).

Our team is equipped to work with a variety of conditions in both children and adults as informed by their goals, for example: neurodevelopmental conditions (e.g. Autism; ADHD), cognitive considerations (e.g. Intellectual Disability; brain injury; and/or queried cognitive or executive function concerns); trauma-history (e.g. PTSD / C-PTSD; developmental trauma); adjustment, grief and loss; mood disturbances and anxiety (e.g. anxiety or depressive disorders; Agoraphobia; Bipolar and other affective disorders); psychosis (e.g. Schizophrenia); behavioural concerns (e.g. demand avoidance; opposition; challenging behaviours); personality disorders (e.g. Borderline; Dissociative); social, vocational and relational concerns; and as otherwise informed by the Participant's objectives. Our team adopts a trauma-informed and neurodiverse-affirming approach in their practice.

As outlined, part of the referral & intake process is garnering a snapshot of the Participant's current contexts and goals of engagement. In the instance we are not the most suitable service provider, we do endeavour to provide alternate recommendations for specialist or treatment-based services as applicable. Please note we do not provide medico-legal services, court reports or similar (e.g. relevant to parental capacity / child safety) as this is outside of our scope of services. We welcome a conversation with a member of our Intake & Client Support Team should any further queries arise.

ASSESSMENTS & REPORTS

Varied Costing

Ability provides a suite of assessment and reporting options to prepare an individual for their NDIS plan review, or to otherwise substantiate the nature of their support needs. Please note we do also have an assessment branch that provides *diagnostic assessment services* (Ability Assessment Solutions), however, Ability Psychology Services commonly provides the following assessment & report options for Clients & their families:

- **Functional Report:** Commonly utilised to substantiate the need for support services. Available to both ongoing and non-ongoing clients. This assessment entails semi-structured clinical interview, psychometric assessment of adaptive behaviour across important functional domains (ABAS-3), medical evidence review/consultation & administration of relevant screener tools (e.g. WHODAS 2.0 / Care Needs Scale) to demonstrate a Participant's support needs under the NDIS Act.
- **Cognitive Assessment:** A cognitive assessment allows the opportunity to better understand their cognitive abilities and how this may inform their support needs, support provision and progress towards their NDIS Plan goals. The ABAS-3 (functional) is administered concurrent with any cognitive assessment at no additional cost. Available to both ongoing and non-ongoing clients.
- **SDA / SIL Support:** Ability can provide assessment of SDA / SIL needs where it pertains to psychological function and/or adaptive behaviours. Commonly, we form SDA/SIL evidence in conjunction with other allied health professions (e.g., OT) and with prior consent, welcome collaboration and liaison from other stakeholders to assist in forming a strong case for the Participant.
- **Progress Report (NDIS):** For ongoing Clients who do not require a functional, cognitive or similar we also offer a 'Progress Report' that captures an individual's therapeutic progress towards their established NDIS Plan goals, and provides recommendations as to further opportunities for progress in the subsequent NDIS Plan.
- **Functional Behaviour Assessment:** This is a process for collecting information from multiple sources to help determine why challenging behaviours occur and to serve as a basis for the development of (or justification for funding for), such as a Positive Behaviour Support Plan (PBSP).
- **Diagnostic Assessments:** Diagnostic assessment services are offered by Ability Assessment Solutions (intake@abilityassessmentsolutions.com) as applicable to psychometric assessment. Please note, acceptance of a referral for diagnostic assessment is contingent on the suitability and available information, however we will provide recommendation of an alternate suitable health provider (e.g., Psychiatrist) if required.
- **DSP Support:** Ability provides assessment to individuals seeking to understand their eligibility for support under the Disability Support Pension, and to gather additional evidence for their application. Whilst not all conditions are within our scope of practice, we can provide insight into how the Department of Human Services assesses an individual's eligibility and what evidence (such as specialist reports) may be required. Where the disability or condition falls within our scope, we are able to provide assessment services (often cognitive and/or function) and a report to strengthen your application. If you are seeking low or no cost support, we recommend reaching out to an advocacy organisation, such as Basic Rights Queensland (<https://brq.org.au/>), for further support.