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Alan W. Brue
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This book is dedicated to the memory of my mentor and friend, Dr. Thomas Oakland, who has been and continues to be an inspiration to many around the world.

—Alan W. Brue

SERIES PREFACE

In the *Essentials of Psychological Assessment* series, we have attempted to provide the reader with books that will deliver key practical information in the most efficient and accessible style. Many books in the series feature specific instruments in a variety of domains, such as cognition, personality, education, and neuropsychology. Other books, like *Essentials of Intellectual Disability Assessment and Identification*, focus on crucial topics for professionals who are involved in any way with assessment—topics such as specific reading disabilities, evidence-based interventions, and ADHD assessment. For the experienced professional, books in the series offer a concise yet thorough review of a test instrument or a specific area of expertise, including numerous tips for best practices. Students can turn to series books for a clear and concise overview of the important assessment tools and of key topics in which they must become proficient to practice skillfully, efficiently, and ethically in their chosen fields.

Wherever feasible, visual cues highlighting key points are utilized alongside systematic, step-by-step guidelines. Chapters are focused and succinct. Topics are organized for an easy understanding of the essential material related to a particular test or topic. Theory and research are continually woven into the fabric of each book, but the aim always is to enhance the practical application of the material rather than to sidetrack or overwhelm readers. With this series, we aim to challenge and assist readers interested in psychological assessment to aspire to the highest level of competency by arming them with the tools they need for knowledgeable, informed practice. We have long been advocates of “intelligent” testing—the notion that numbers are meaningless unless they are brought to life by the clinical acumen and expertise of examiners. Assessment must be used to make a difference in the child’s or adult’s life, or why bother to test? All books in the series—whether devoted to specific tests or general topics—are consistent with this credo. We want this series to help our readers, novice and veteran alike, to benefit from the intelligent assessment approaches of the authors of each book.

We are delighted to include *Essentials of Intellectual Disability Assessment and Identification* in our series. This book offers a concise overview of the nature of an intellectual disability and adaptive skills functioning in children, adolescents, and adults. Providing an in-depth look at intellectual disability assessment and identification, the authors discuss the history of intellectual disability, its causes, comorbid disorders, diagnostic criteria and special education eligibility criteria, legal issues such as capital punishment, theories of intelligence, test instruments used in the assessment of an intellectual disability, and postassessment planning. In addition, they illustrate in sample reports how assessment data can be integrated in a brief report in order to inform treatment and guide interventions.

Alan S. Kaufman, PhD, and Nadeen L. Kaufman, EdD, Series Editors
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