



# Assessment and Interventions for Executive Function Difficulties

Presented by  
**George McCloskey, Ph.D.**

## Overview

This presentation will help participants gain a deeper understanding of executive functions and how executive functions deficits impact the behavior and academic production of children and adolescents. Participants will gain state-of-the-art knowledge of the most effective ways to help children and adolescents improve their use of executive functions. Dr. McCloskey will describe ways to discuss executive functions with children, parents and school staff. He will also discuss ways to help motivate children and adolescents to ensure their full participation in intervention efforts. He will place special emphasis on how to orient students to intervention efforts and the use of bridging strategies to help students move from being externally controlled to being internally self-regulated. Dr. McCloskey will use numerous case study examples of assessment and intervention efforts and outcomes with children and adolescents throughout the presentation. Participants will leave this workshop with a greater understanding of how to improve executive functions, and a greater realization of how their efforts can have a positive effect on the children, parents and professionals with whom they work

## Objectives: Participants will be able to:

- A comprehensive model of executive control.
- The difference between executive functions and executive skills.
- How executive functions and skills operate differently at different levels of executive control.
- Ways to assess executive functions and executive skills.
- The executive control intervention continuum.
- Appropriate evidence-based interventions that improve executive control.
- Sources of information about interventions that address executive control difficulties.

## 12.5 Hours CE Credits

### Introduction - Intervention Mindset (1hr 34 minutes 4 secs)

- What are Executive Functions (EF)?
- Holarchical Model of Executive Control
- Executive Functions and Executive Skills = Executive Control (EF + ES = EC)
- Development of EFs Part 1

### Sleep Inertia and Self-Activation (1 hr 31 min 27 secs)

- Executive Control and Automaticity Part 1
- Executive Function Assessment Part 1

### Executive Function and Intelligence (1 hr 35 min)

- 504 Accommodations and Treatment Plans: Who's brain is changing

### Executive Function Intervention Continuum (1 hr 38 min 34 secs)

- Orienting Phase
- External Control Methods
- Bridging Strategies

### Executive Function Intervention Continuum (1 hr 33min 32 secs)

- Bridging Strategies (continued)
- Internal Self-Control Strategies
- Case Example: Zach

### Executive control in Reading, Writing and Quantifying (1 hr 30 min 17 secs)

- Automaticity Part 2
- Learning Difficulties (LD) vs Producing Difficulties (PD)
- LD vs PD Case Examples

### Intervention Mindset and Change (1 hr 19 min32 secs)

- Case Example: Jake
- Executive Function Development Part 2
- Case Example: Carter
- Executive Function and Clinical Diagnoses

### Executive Function Assessment Part 2 (1 hr 48 min 02 secs)

- Case Example: Martin
- Review of Programs that Improve EF/ES (Time Permitting)

**George McCloskey, Ph.D.** is a Professor and Director of School Psychology Research in the School for Professional and Applied Psychology at Philadelphia College of Osteopathic Medicine (PCOM) and holds Diplomate status with the American Academy of Pediatric Neuropsychology. Based on over 20 years of research and experience working with children, adolescents and adults exhibiting executive function difficulties, Dr. McCloskey has developed a comprehensive model of executive functions that can be used to assess executive function strengths and difficulties and guide intervention efforts. He frequently presents both internationally and nationally. He consults with a number of school districts and private schools nationwide on issues related to improving students' self-regulation capacities in the classroom, behavior management, assessment and intervention for executive functions difficulties related to academic and behavior problems. Dr. McCloskey is the lead author of the books *Assessment and Intervention for Executive Function Difficulties* and *Essentials of Executive Functions Assessment* and his most recent writing on interventions for executive function and executive skills difficulties appears in Chapter 10 of the book *Essentials of Planning, Selecting, and Tailoring Interventions for Unique Learners*. He also is the author of the *McCloskey Executive Functions Scales (MEFS)*

### Approved Home Study CE Hours for Psychologists Counselors Social Workers Nurses MFT AOTA