

WOODCOCK-JOHNSON III DIAGNOSTIC READING BATTERY INSTRUCTIONAL MATERIALS GRANTS FOR GRADUATE TRAINING COURSES IN READING ASSESSMENT

The Woodcock-Muñoz Foundation is a private operating foundation that is sponsoring a number of instructional materials grants to graduate training programs in reading and special education. The purpose of the grants is to encourage the development of model courses of instruction in norm-referenced, diagnostic assessment in reading. The Woodcock-Muñoz Foundation will purchase and provide each awarded graduate program with fifteen copies of the *WJ III Diagnostic Reading Battery* (WJ III DRB) for training purposes. The value of each grant is in excess of \$5,000.00.

Overview of the WJ III DRB

The *Woodcock-Johnson III Diagnostic Reading Battery* is a comprehensive set of individually administered tests that measures important dimensions of phonological awareness, phonics knowledge, and reading achievement. In addition, the WJ III DRB includes two tests of oral language ability: oral vocabulary and oral comprehension.

The wide age range and breadth of coverage of the WJ III DRB allow the tests to be used for many educational, clinical, or research purposes from early childhood to mature adulthood. The WJ III DRB can be used for screening, diagnosis, progress monitoring, and program planning, and as a research tool to measure outcomes.

The WJ III DRB is comprised of tests selected from the *Woodcock-Johnson III*. With the exception of the Sound Blending and Oral Vocabulary tests, all of the tests are derived from Form B of the *WJ III Tests of Achievement*. The following is a list of tests included in the WJ III DRB:

- Test 1: Letter-Word Identification
- Test 2: Passage Comprehension
- Test 3: Word Attack
- Test 4: Reading Vocabulary
- Test 5: Reading Fluency
- Test 6: Spelling of Sounds
- Test 7: Sound Awareness
- Test 8: Sound Blending
- Test 9: Oral Vocabulary
- Test 10: Oral Comprehension

The WJ III DRB provides 8 cluster scores that measure different aspects of reading or reading-related variables, such as phonemic awareness and oral language comprehension. These include:

- Basic Reading Skills
- Reading Comprehension
- Phonics Knowledge
- Phonemic Awareness
- Oral Language Comprehension
- Brief Reading
- Broad Reading
- Total Reading

Use of the WJ III DRB in Graduate-Level Reading Assessment Courses

The WJ III DRB is an ideal instrument for introducing individualized reading assessment in college and university courses. As an instructional aid, a training video is included with the grant materials. The test's manual contains the basic principles of individual clinical assessment and specific administration, scoring, and interpretive information for WJ III DRB. The WJ III DRB provides new examiners with a broad foundation in the administration, scoring, and interpretation of individualized assessments. Experience in clinical assessment with the WJ III DRB provides a solid foundation for learning to administer and interpret other test instruments as well.

Grant Application Process

To apply for a grant, the university training program must submit a letter of intent and a proposed course syllabus. The letter of intent should describe your training program, your proposed approach to teaching assessment of reading, the typical number of students in the assessment course, and the qualifications of the instructor (e.g., has the instructor received any special training in the WJ III and/or used the WJ III reading tests in practice?). The proposed course syllabus must demonstrate that you will use the materials to comprise at least two full weeks (or six clock hours) of instructional content, including practice requirements, and scoring and interpretive documentation (practicum-type assessment requirements). Documentation of competency to administer and interpret the *WJ III Diagnostic Reading Battery* must be included in the course evaluation criteria.

Submit completed grant applications to: Fredrick A. Schrank, PhD, ABPP, Executive Director, The Woodcock-Muñoz Foundation, 214 22nd Ave., SW, Olympia, WA, 98501. You may submit applications electronically at f.schrank@reachone.com. For further information, you may call Dr. Schrank at 360.753.7489.



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