

***THIS STUDY NO LONGER RECRUITING***

**Name of Study:** Executive Functioning in High-Functioning Autism Spectrum Disorders: Relationship to Social and Adaptive Skills

**Location:** Mail-based study with no geographic limitation

**Institution:** Widener University, Chester, PA

**Eligibility Criteria:** Children diagnosed with a High-Functioning Autism Spectrum Disorder, ages 5 through 17. Must have meaningful verbal skills and do not have a diagnosis of mental retardation (IQ score >70)

**Principal Investigator:** Rosemarie Manfredi, MA

**Contact Information:** Rosemarie Manfredi, Institute for Graduate Clinical Psychology, Widener University, One University Place, Chester, PA 19013; [rmanfredi@mail.widener.edu](mailto:rmanfredi@mail.widener.edu)

Dear Parent,

I am writing this letter to offer you an opportunity to participate in a research study being conducted at Widener University. This study is examining executive functions, higher level thinking skills, such as planning, mental flexibility, problem-solving, and organization, and their relationship to social and adaptive and self-care difficulties associated with autism spectrum disorders. The goal of this study is to further explain the difficulties observed in autism spectrum disorders. With this understanding, interventions and treatments can be further refined and made more effective. The findings of this study will be useful to parents of children with autism spectrum disorders, as well as professionals that work with them, such as psychologists, regular and special education teachers, behavioral specialists, occupational therapists, and speech and language therapists, among others.

If you agree to participate, study materials will be mailed to your home to be completed and returned at your nearest convenience; thus, it will not be necessary to travel to Widener University. Materials will include an informed consent form, a demographic data form, and three questionnaires for you to complete about your child diagnosed with an autism spectrum disorder. Completion of these materials is expected to take approximately 45 to 60 minutes. The results will be compiled anonymously at Widener University; therefore, you will not receive any specific results regarding your completion of these forms.

There is no charge to participate in this study.

If you are interested in participating in this study, please send email your mailing address to Rosemarie Manfredi at [rmanfredi@mail.widener.edu](mailto:rmanfredi@mail.widener.edu) so that study materials can be mailed to you.

Thank you in advance for your time and assistance. I look forward to working with you in the near future.

Sincerely,

Rosemarie Manfredi, MA  
Doctoral Candidate  
Institute for Graduate Clinical Psychology  
Widener University

IAN ref: SR00104