

Socio-Sexual Knowledge and Attitudes Assessment Tool-Third Edition

## Field Research Examiners Needed!

Stoelting Co. and Dr. Shelley Watson are pleased to announce the development of the **Socio-Sexual Knowledge and Attitudes Assessment Tool – Third Edition (SSKAAT-3)**, a tool to assess the socio-sexual knowledge and attitudes of individuals with intellectual and developmental disabilities. The SSKAAT-3 is an update to the Socio-Sexual Knowledge and Attitudes Assessment Tool – Revised (SSKAAT-R), a widely used tool with well-regarded history and presence in the field. Results from SSKAAT-3 assessments can inform how to best provide relevant education about sex, sexual health, intimacy, and relationships, and ultimately support healthy sexuality, reduce vulnerabilities to abuse, and promote healthy boundaries and intimate relationships.

## We are currently recruiting field researchers for SSKAAT-3 Field Research to administer assessment tools with a variety of individuals.

*Field Researcher Qualifications:* Preferred qualifications (with exceptions made) to participate as a field researcher include the following:

- Experience in education or the assessment of children/adults with and without disabilities
- Master's degree or above in special education, childhood/exceptional education, school psychology, clinical psychology, counseling psychology, or neuropsychology
- We welcome individuals who possess a Doctorate in a related field to work independently, and/or to
  provide supervision to graduate students or other professionals.

*Field Research Plan Overview:* Each individual who participates in the field testing will be given one or up to three tests, which will typically not exceed 1 hour each. These tests will include the SSKAAT-3, the SSKAAT-R, the nonverbal IQ index (5 subtests) from the Leiter International Performance Scale – Third Edition (Leiter-3; a test of nonverbal intelligence), and the Tool for Assessment of Levels of Knowledge – Sexuality and Consent – Revised (TALK-SC-R). The field researchers will also be asking participants questions regarding demographic information (e.g., birthdate, gender identity, race/ethnicity, education level, living situation, history of sexual education, history of police involvement related to sexual activity, and prior diagnoses, if known). Stoelting Co. will ship all necessary test kits and training materials to field researchers. All field researchers will receive training on SSKAAT-3 test administration as well as additional tests administered as a part of field research.

Given that the SSKAAT-3 assesses sexual knowledge and attitudes, it inherently contains sensitive topics, questions, and images. A PDF that gives an overview of the SSKAAT-3 will be provided to field researchers to give to their facilities as a sample of its content. The sensitive nature of the tool will be explained to participants, and parents/caregivers/guardians when appropriate, and they will be informed about the purpose for conducting the assessment. At the start of the SSKAAT-3 administration, participants are informed that they do not have to discuss their own personal sexual experiences, they can choose not to respond to any questions, and they can discontinue at any time. Should any adverse situations arise (e.g., the participant experiencing emotional discomfort, unexpected disclosures), field researchers are trained to take appropriate steps to best support the participant.

*Test Results*: Stoelting Co. will only use test results to further develop the instrument. The primary reason for this research is to develop normative scores for the SSKAAT-3. Thus, scoring has not yet been established, and it will be impossible to contextualize participant performance in a meaningful way. Therefore, Stoelting Co. will



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not be able provide scores for each individual. Examiners may be able to provide feedback that is qualitative in nature, which may help inform intervention, but cannot provide a full SSKAAT-3 report.

*Compensation:* Stoelting Co. will offer reimbursement to field researchers; they will receive \$40USD for each complete test administration (i.e., for each SSKAAT-3, SSKAAT-R, Leiter-3, or TALK SC-R). If your program, and/or field researchers, are conducting the assessments as part of their daily work and cannot accept compensation, Stoelting Co. will provide the compensation as a donation to your agency. Please communicate with Stoelting Co. about your preference. All field researchers and programs involved in the project will also be cited in the acknowledgments section of the SSKAAT-3 Manual. Stoelting Co. will offer compensation to all participants to thank them for their time. Participants will receive \$25USD for each complete test administration (i.e., SSKAAT-3; SSKAAT-R; Leiter-3; TALK – SC-R). Field researchers will be provided with compensation to provide to the participants after their assessment (s), on the day of their appointment. Should a participant withdraw or decide to discontinue the assessment at any time, they will still receive compensation.

If you would like to participate, please complete the SSKAAT-3 Field Researcher Application Form at <u>https://stoeltingco.com/Psychological-Testing/research/psychology-field-research</u>, which will ask about professional information, populations with whom you may have access, and test proficiency levels. Please complete this and return to Stephanie Kohlman, Psy.D., at Stoelting Co. (contact information below). Should you be selected to participate in field research, Stoelting Co. will contact you with more details and training information.

We look forward to working with you to develop the SSKAAT-3!

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