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Call for Papers

Special Issue:
**Meeting Students' Needs through
School Social Work Assessment:
Tools for Practice and Advocacy**

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In the course of their practice, school social workers are expected to engage in a variety of assessment activities: functional assessments, behavioral assessments, mental health screenings, evaluations for special education, and progress monitoring, among others. Results of these assessments are brought to Individualized Education Program meetings, used to guide interventions, and to link students and their families to community resources. Assessment is considered a critical task to fulfilling the social justice mission of school social work, as it enables us to “meet students where they are” with a clearer picture of their strengths and needs. Both the *Supplemental Ethical Standards for School Social Work Practice* and the Individuals with Disabilities Education Act recognize the importance of assessment activities, requiring that school social workers use reliable, valid, nondiscriminatory, and culturally appropriate assessments that they are qualified to administer.

Given the critical nature of assessment activities as well as the legal and ethical requirements, wide range of student needs, and many demands of school social work practice,

how do school social workers select and administer suitable assessments? Although previous issues of *Children and Schools* have examined aspects of assessment such as highlighting free, high-quality measurement tools, this special issue expands on the topic by also considering the context surrounding assessment. Specifically, we are seeking manuscripts that address (a) identifying quality assessments and matching them to student needs, (b) novel and dynamic tools and practices to assess student behavior and functioning, (c) best tools and practices for culturally and ethically appropriate student assessment, and (d) using assessment as a tool for social justice and advocacy.

The deadline for manuscript submission is **August 31, 2021**. The journal encourages submission of full-length articles (20 pages) and shorter columns. To prepare your manuscript in proper format for submission, see Author Guidelines at www.naswpress.org/content/1420. Please submit manuscripts through the online submission portal at <http://cs.msubmit.net> (initial, onetime registration is required) and indicate that your submission is intended for the Special Issue on Assessment.