

FEDERAL AVIATION ADMINISTRATION

SPECIFICATIONS FOR PSYCHIATRIC AND PSYCHOLOGICAL EVALUATIONS

- I. If not previously submitted, all records are required covering prior psychiatric hospitalizations and/or other periods of observation or treatment. These records must be in sufficient detail to permit a clear evaluation of the nature and extent of any previous mental disorders.
- II. A report by a qualified psychiatrist is required. (A qualified psychiatrist is preferably one who has been certified by the American Board of Psychiatry and Neurology, or one who has a background equivalent for Board certification.) The applicant's personal physician is often a good source for such a referral.

The examination must be of recent date, and the report should be in sufficient detail and depth to permit an accurate evaluation of the petitioner's interval history, and his/her current psychiatric status. The usual elements of an evaluation such as past history, family history, and current mental status should be included as well.

- III. A report is also required by a qualified clinical psychologist who is experienced in administering such tests. (A qualified psychologist is preferably one with a state license or certification with a Ph.D. in Clinical Psychology, or is listed in the National Register of Health Service providers in Psychology.) The applicant may contact the local psychological association for a referral.

The report (including a copy of the test protocols) should contain a detailed psychological evaluation based on a battery of psychological tests. Such a battery should include: (1) the complete Wechsler Adult Intelligence Scale - Revised (WAIS-R), (2) the Minnesota Multiphasic Personality Inventory (MMPI-2/MMPI); and as considered appropriate by the practitioner, and three or more of the remaining tests or their equivalents.

- a. A cognitive function screening test such as the Trails Making Test, Category Test (Booklet or Machine), or a memory scale (Wechsler Memory Scale, California Verbal Learning Test, Rey Auditory Verbal Learning Test).
- b. A projective test such as the Rorschach or Sentence Completion.
- c. A personality inventory test such as the NEO-R, the Personality Assessment Inventory, the Millon Clinical Multiaxial Inventory (MCMI).
- d. A symptom screening test such as the Beck or Hamilton for depression, or the MAST for alcoholism.

The evaluating psychologist should select the particular tests based upon his or her experience, considering the particular issues involved.

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