

## Recommended Procedures for Using Estimator

The severe discrepancy formula contained in ESTIMATOR assumes the user is comparing one IQ score with one achievement score. It is recommended that users not make multiple comparisons, i.e. enter multiple IQ and achievement scores in an effort to find a severe discrepancy. Making multiple comparisons increases the probability that one will find a severe discrepancy by chance.

The recommended procedure for using ESTIMATOR is:

1. Administer an IQ test appropriate for the student, and choose the score that is the best measure of general intellectual ability (g) for the student. If you are unsure about what score is the best measure of g for a student, check with your school psychologist or other district tests and measurements expert.
2. Determine the achievement area where the student is having the most difficulty based on grades, teacher reports, classroom observations, criterion-referenced tests, and other existing test data.
3. Administer an achievement test appropriate for the student, and choose the score that is the best measure of achievement in the achievement area where the student is having the most difficulty, as supported by data listed in number 2 above.
4. Enter only these scores into the ESTIMATOR program.\*
5. If ESTIMATOR does not show a severe discrepancy based on the scores entered, do not enter additional scores on a "fishing expedition" to find a severe discrepancy.

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\* Note: Achievement scores other than the one entered into ESTIMATOR may be very useful for (1) creating a profile of a student's strengths and weaknesses, and (2) developing special education individualized plans or general education intervention plans.