



# MSPA 2023 Spring Webinar 1

## ***OveridentiED: Understanding and Addressing the Overidentification of Emotional Disabilities***

***Ericka Levy, Psy.D.***

*School Psychologist, Baltimore City Public Schools*

*Focused on advocating for and supporting students with significant emotional and behavioral difficulties, providing professional development relative to these topics, and working with parents to help them support these needs*

**Friday, April 14, 2023**

***LIVE Zoom Webinar***

***12:00 PM (EST) - 2:00 PM (EST)***

## PROGRAM OVERVIEW

### **Agenda:**

11:45 - 12:00 Webinar participant check-in and review of important information

12:00 - 2:00 OveridentifiED: Understanding and Addressing the Overidentification of Emotional Disabilities

### **Program Description:**

One of the biggest challenges in the classroom is disruptive behaviors which negatively impact instruction. Many factors play a role in behavior and we are tasked with identifying whether those behaviors are the results of an educational disability or something else. In the federal definition of emotional disabilities, interpretation of the term “socially maladjusted” is left to the clinician. For many students this maladaptive behavior is appropriate for their lives outside of the academic setting. However, inside the academic settings these behaviors can be very disruptive. We must acknowledge the role of implicit bias in disability determination. Coming from varying backgrounds means varying values, perspectives, and principles. In this presentation, we will dissect the federal definition of emotional disability, understand how factors such as implicit bias can lead to overidentification, discuss the importance of gathering data from multiple sources and across environments, and identify multi-tiered supports that can be implemented across settings to support students prior to referring students to the IEP team.

**This workshop addresses the following NASP practice model domains:** Domain 1: Data-Based Decision Making; Domain 4: Mental and Behavioral Health Services and Interventions; Domain 5: School-Wide Practices to Promote Learning; Domain 6: Services to Promote Safe and Supportive Schools; Domain 8: Equitable Practices for Diverse Student Populations

### **Learning Objectives:**

As a result of this training, participants will be able to:

1. Dissect the federal definition of emotional disability
2. Understand how factors such as implicit bias can lead to overidentification
3. Identify supports that can be implemented across settings prior to referring students to the IEP Team
4. Discuss the importance of gathering data from multiple sources and across environments

## ABOUT THE SPEAKER



**Ericka Levy, Psy.D.** has been a school psychologist in a large urban school district for 16 years. She earned her doctorate in school psychology at St. John's University in Queens, New York. Dr. Levy was a student in the district in which she currently works and understands how factors such as community violence, poverty, and implicit bias can impact students' abilities to learn. She has spent her career advocating for and supporting students with significant emotional and behavioral disabilities and providing professional development to school districts on topics such as the identification of emotional disabilities, the difference between emotional disabilities and social maladjustment, and behavioral interventions, among other topics. In addition to working with school staff, Dr. Levy enjoys working with students and parents to help them better understand how to support emotional and behavioral needs. The impact of the current Covid-19 pandemic has provided Dr. Levy the opportunity to remind colleagues that students don't always come to school ready to learn and that “children need to *Maslow* before they can *Bloom*.”

## INFORMATION AND DIRECTIONS

This webinar will be one of two webinars that will take place this spring in place of our traditional in-person MSPA Spring Conference event.

The National Association of School Psychologists (NASP) and hence the Maryland Board of Examiners of Psychologists recognize MSPA as an approved provider of Continuing Professional Development/Continuing Education (CPD/CE) for psychologists (NASP APS #1002). MSPA maintains responsibility for the program. Documentation of attendance for 2 hours of CPD/CE credit will be provided to certified school psychologists and licensed psychologists who attend the entire workshop and complete an evaluation form. Partial credit cannot be awarded. In order to receive CPD/CE credit, attendees must join the webinar no later than 15 minutes after the start, and may not leave prior to 15 minutes before the end. Attendee join and leave times will be tracked to confirm full attendance. Additionally, webinar attendees must respond to at least two of three polls presented during the webinar. Following the workshop, attendance and poll records will be verified and webinar attendees who have met the attendance criteria described will be emailed a link no later than noon on Monday, April 17, 2023 to complete the evaluation form, which must be completed by April 28, 2023. After submitting that form, the attendee will receive the CPD/CE certificate.

Go to [www.mspaonline.org](http://www.mspaonline.org) to register and pay online or download the full brochure to **mail in your registration form and check to: MSPA Spring Webinar, PO Box 62, Buckeystown, MD 21717**. Mail-in registrations must be **postmarked by March 31, 2023**. There is an **ONLINE REGISTRATION DEADLINE of April 11, 2023**. Your attendance certificate acts as your receipt (monetary receipts are available upon request). Reimbursement requests for registration cancellations will be honored until April 12, 2023. Reimbursement requests after that date cannot be guaranteed.

MSPA does not offer a group registration rate however, employers who register a group of 10 or more will receive 1 complimentary registration. Email the list of names as well as registration forms for each registrant to Tina Wachter at [program@mspaonline.org](mailto:program@mspaonline.org). She will give you the total cost for the registrations.

Persons with questions or special needs should contact: Tina Wachter at 443-672-8288 or [program@mspaonline.org](mailto:program@mspaonline.org).

**REGISTRATION FORM**

**NAME:** \_\_\_\_\_

**ADDRESS:** \_\_\_\_\_

**CITY / STATE / ZIP:** \_\_\_\_\_

**HOME PHONE:**    (\_\_\_\_) \_\_\_\_\_      **WORK PHONE:**    (\_\_\_\_) \_\_\_\_\_

**PREFERRED EMAIL ADDRESS:** \_\_\_\_\_

**EMPLOYER:** \_\_\_\_\_

**POSITION:** \_\_\_\_\_

**Conference Fee Schedule: (Make checks payable to MSPA):**

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|-----|---|---------|
| ___ | MSPA/MPA Member in Good Standing                | \$50.00 |
| ___ | Nonmember                                       | \$85.00 |
| ___ | Full-time MSPA Student Member or Retired Member | \$25.00 |

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IF YOU WISH TO PAY BY CREDIT CARD, YOU MUST REGISTER ONLINE.