



Frequently-asked Questions (FAQs)

These FAQs are not meant to discourage you from calling us. Please do so.

Patrick: 407-415-5241 or Troy: 952-412-6206

Who can conduct an initial assessment and what type of training would they require?

Any professional practitioner can use Essential for Living. It is written in language familiar to teachers, residential supervisors, speech-language pathologists, and behavior analysts. No specific training is required or necessary, but may be helpful. In-person and online training options are both available and are described in www.essentialforliving.com under the **Training Menu** and **Training Options in Your Community** <https://www.essentialforliving.com/training-options/>. For additional information, contact Troy Fry... troy@essentialforliving.com.

How do you conduct an initial assessment of skills and problem behavior?

These procedures are described in **chapter 4** of the **EFL Professional Practitioner's Handbook**, beginning on pages 28 and 29. These procedures are also described and demonstrated in **EFL Video III** – <https://essentialforliving.sharefile.com/share/view/s2ae9e68b0f046648/fo2dfe3a-95fa-465a-9f9d-86f59cced02d>

How long does it take to conduct an initial assessment?

An initial assessment of skills and problem behavior generally takes about 2-4 hours spread over several days.

What is the difference between the two learner scoring manuals?

The **Assessment and Record of Progress (ARP) Manual**, also known as the **All Skills Learner Scoring Manual**, with the blue band on the left includes all of the skills that are part of Essential for Living, along with problem behavior. This scoring manual is appropriate for most children and adults.

The **Essential Assessment and Record of Progress (EARP) Manual**, also known as the **Essential Eight Skills Learner Scoring Manual**, with the red band along the left contains only the must-have skills (also known as the Essential Eight Skills), along with problem behavior. This scoring manual is appropriate for children and adults with limited skill repertoires and problem behavior.

You should have one of these scoring manuals for each child or adult with whom you are working. Beginning in July, 2018, an Essential for Living App will be available providing electronic scoring. If you purchase subscriptions with the app, you will no longer need these scoring manuals.

If I am a director of special education or the clinical director of a program, what do I need to get started?

You will need a **Professional Practitioner's Handbook for each teacher, speech-language pathologist, and behavior analyst** <http://store.behaviorchange.com/essential-for-living-the-assessment-and-curriculum.html> and **a scoring manual for each learner**.

— for most learners, you will need an **Assessment and Record of Progress (ARP) Manual**, also called the **All Skills Learner Scoring Manual**, which includes all of the skills that are part of Essential for Living and problem behavior

<http://store.behaviorchange.com/essential-for-living-the-scoring-manual-the-arp.html>

— for some learners with very limited skill repertoires and problem behavior you may choose to use an **Essential Assessment and Record of Progress (EARP) Manual**, which includes only the must-have skills and problem behavior

<http://store.behaviorchange.com/essential-for-living-the-scoring-manual-the-earp.html>

Can Essential for Living be used with children and adults, even those with severe and multiple disabilities?

Absolutely. *Essential for Living* was designed for both children and adults with intellectual disabilities, complex and multiple disabilities, and those with medically fragile conditions. For example, this instrument is currently being used with children and adults with Down Syndrome, Angelman's syndrome, Cornelia de Lange Syndrome, and Hunter's Syndrome, to name a few, along with children who are deaf and blind, and those with fragile or terminal conditions.

If I am a teacher with 6 or 8 students, what do I need to get started?

If you have six or eight students, we suggest **a set which contains one handbook and six ARP learner scoring manuals** <http://store.behaviorchange.com/residential-package-one-assessment-and-curriculum-and-six-scoring.html> or **one handbook and eight ARP learner scoring manuals** <http://store.behaviorchange.com/classroom-package-one-assessment-and-curriculum-amp-8-scoring-manual8.html>

If your students have very limited skill repertoires and problem behavior, we suggest **a set which contains one handbook and six EARP learner scoring manuals**

<http://store.behaviorchange.com/residential-package-e8-one-assessment-and-curriculum-and-six-e8-scoring.html> or **one handbook and eight EARP learner scoring manuals** <http://store.behaviorchange.com/classroom-package-e8-one-assessment-and-curriculum-amp-e8-scoringmanual8.html>

If I am a residential supervisor with 6 adults, what do I need to get started?

If you have six adult residents, we suggest **a set which contains one handbook and six ARP learner scoring** <http://store.behaviorchange.com/residential-package-one-assessment-and-curriculum-and-six-scoring.html> or **If your residents have very limited skill repertoires and problem behavior**, we suggest **a set which contains one handbook and six EARP learner scoring manuals** <http://store.behaviorchange.com/residential-package-e8-one-assessment-and-curriculum-and-six-e8-scoring.html>

Are you available to answer additional questions?

We are *definitely* available: **you can call or contact us by email...** patrick@essentialforliving.com or 407-415-5241 troy@essentialforliving.com 952-412-6206 **or you can join one or more of our online Q and A sessions** (at no charge) <https://www.essentialforliving.com/workshops-online-trainings/upcoming-online-trainings/>