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**HARCOURT ASSESSMENT OFFERS SPANISH EDITION OF
WECHSLER INTELLIGENCE SCALE FOR CHILDREN®**

SAN ANTONIO – Leading test developer and publisher Harcourt Assessment, Inc. has launched a Spanish edition of the most widely used test of children’s intellectual ability, the Wechsler Intelligence Scale for Children® - Fourth Edition (WISC®-IV Spanish).

Published under Harcourt’s PsychCorp™ brand, the Wechsler scale has long been considered the gold standard among children’s intelligence tests and WISC-IV Spanish continues this tradition of excellence. The test was developed especially for Spanish-language dominant children during their first five years of education in the United States and can be administered from age six to age 16 years 11 months.

WISC-IV Spanish is a comprehensive adaptation of the original English edition and incorporates language that represents the U.S. Spanish-speaking population from many countries of origin, including Mexico, Cuba, Puerto Rico, and the Dominican Republic, as well as Central and South America.

“WISC-IV Spanish is a much needed instrument,” said Dr. Gelasia Marquez, a bilingual school psychologist. “Harcourt Assessment has done everything to ensure the representation of every Spanish-speaking nationality.”

“Because of the richness and variety of spoken Spanish, our challenge was to develop valid items in Spanish that could be understood universally by Spanish speakers,” said Dr. Lawrence Weiss, vice president of psychological assessment products for Harcourt Assessment. “Thanks to a dedicated team of researchers and developers, we have created a Spanish version of WISC-IV that is true to the Wechsler heritage.”

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In some cases, an existing WISC-IV item could be translated directly into Spanish. In other cases, where no direct translation was possible – for instance, the word “homesick” – or where an English word had multiple meanings in Spanish, Harcourt replaced the original item with a completely new Spanish item.

Like the original WISC-IV, WISC-IV Spanish is based on recent research in cognitive psychology and intellectual assessment that indicates tasks focused on processing speed and working memory are accurate measures of intelligence and strong indicators of potential learning disabilities or attention disorders. For these reasons, WISC-IV and WISC-IV Spanish place greater weight on these tasks.

WISC-IV Spanish also reflects current thinking that assessments should be relevant and interesting to the children who take them. Artwork in WISC-IV Spanish is colorful and modern, and portrays contemporary culture, technology and demographics.

WISC-IV Spanish comprises the same 10 core subtests as the original WISC-IV, plus four of the five supplemental subtests, excluding Word Reasoning. The subtests are grouped into four indices -- verbal comprehension, perceptual reasoning, working memory and processing speed. Scores from each index, based on the core subtests only, are combined to create a child’s total score, or Full Scale IQ (FSIQ).

To ensure parents understand their child’s WISC-IV Spanish results, Harcourt offers parent reports in Spanish as well as English.

WISC-IV Spanish norms are calibrated to WISC-IV norms, which enables comparisons to English-speaking children. The norms have also been adjusted demographically to enable comparisons to children with similar U.S. educational experience and parental education level.

The publication of WISC-IV Spanish reflects Harcourt’s commitment to Spanish-language testing. Earlier this year, the company introduced the third edition of its Spanish-language Aprenda[®] achievement test for grades K – 12.

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Later this year it will introduce a Spanish edition of the Clinical Evaluation of Language Fundamentals – Fourth Edition (CELF[®] – 4), which is the company's flagship speech-language assessment.

WISC-IV was also recently published in France and adapted for use in the United Kingdom. Harcourt's Wechsler scales are the world's most widely used tests of intellectual ability and are licensed for publication in more than 30 countries.

Based in San Antonio, Harcourt Assessment is a leading provider of high-quality assessment instruments and testing programs used by educators, psychologists, speech-language pathologists, occupational therapists, human resource professionals, admissions and credentialing professionals, and businesses. Through the development of custom statewide educational testing programs, Harcourt is helping more than 20 states meet the accountability requirements of the federal No Child Left Behind Act.

The company is a unit of Harcourt Education, which is the global education brand of Reed Elsevier Group plc (NYSE: RUK and ENL). Reed Elsevier is a world-leading publisher and information provider operating in the science and medical, legal, education and business-to-business industry sectors.

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