Real Research. Real Results. Since 1922.
Who We Are

The Johnson O’Connor Research Foundation is a nonprofit research and educational organization that has been studying human abilities since 1922. We carry on the mission of our founder, Johnson O’Connor, who believed that each one of us has our own unique natural talents. For more than 90 years, we’ve helped hundreds of thousands of people understand their own potential and career possibilities.
Our Locations

ATLANTA
NEW YORK
WASHINGTON, D.C.
BOSTON
CHICAGO
DENVER
HOUSTON
LOS ANGELES
SAN FRANCISCO
SEATTLE

Johnson O'Connor Research Foundation
What are Aptitudes?

Aptitudes are natural talents, special abilities for doing, or learning to do, certain kinds of things quickly and easily. We’ve been able to isolate many different aptitudes ranging from numerical and spatial reasonings to music and visual abilities to idea generation and workplace personality. Each person’s unique combination of scores makes up their overall approach to work and is a strong predictor of which types of roles they’ll naturally thrive in. These abilities aren’t related to what you’ve learned in school or your interests, which can change over time.

Aptitudes are talents you’re born with.
Who Should Be Tested

- a high school or college student making decisions about college or career
- anyone at a career crossroads
- someone considering returning to school as an adult
- a person facing retirement and looking for ideas for hobbies, volunteer experiences, or encore careers
- someone returning to the workforce after time away
- anyone who wants to know more about themselves

Aptitude testing provides objective data about the areas you’re likely to succeed in and the ones you might want to avoid. People tend to be more satisfied and successful in occupations that challenge their aptitudes.

The individual who knows his or her own aptitudes, and their relative strengths, chooses more intelligently among the world's host of opportunities.

– Johnson O’Connor
The Testing Experience:
Our tests aren’t like school tests but are more like puzzles or games. You’ll be asked to do a wide variety of tasks like assembling blocks, remembering designs, moving chips into order, and listening to simple tunes. About half of our tests are given individually by a trained test administrator; the rest are given using audio-visual equipment. There are no “good” or “bad” scores on our tests, just objective measurements of how naturally a task comes to you.

Our Tests are Different:
Personality tests and interest questionnaires are based solely on how you feel about yourself at that moment in time. Our tests don’t consist of answering self-perception questions or filling out forms, and they’re not influenced by factors like past experiences or schooling. We provide objective data about how your mind likes to work and what careers might best match your combination of abilities.

We remain committed to providing an in-person testing experience, which we believe is the most accurate way to measure aptitudes. A computer test might be able to indicate some aptitudes associated with medicine, for example, but it won’t be able to measure other, vital aspects like the physical dexterity needed to be a surgeon.
As a nonprofit, our focus is on our continuing research and you, our clients. We never sell or share your data, and you’ll always have the option to discuss your results with a trained aptitude consultant, even years after you take the tests.

The Test Results:
Every client receives a bargraph with their aptitude test scores, a report with career suggestions tailored to their unique aptitude pattern, and other written materials that explain our battery of tests. There is a 60-90 minute session with a trained aptitude consultant to go over the results in detail. Because aptitudes are stable over time, the information you receive here is valid for the rest of your life and can always be used to make decisions.

Are you ready to choose intelligently?
Visit jocrf.org to find a testing center near you.
Our History

The Johnson O’Connor Research Foundation, Inc. is the outgrowth of a testing program begun in 1922 by Mr. Johnson O’Connor for the General Electric Company. The program was so successful that the families and friends of the employees asked to be tested. Mr. O’Connor decided to expand the program beyond its industrial setting. In its early years the Foundation was associated with the Stevens Institute of Technology. In 1939 it was incorporated as an independent, nonprofit scientific research and educational organization.