Do you want to take the School Version of the Assessment of Motor and Process Skills (School AMPS) certification course but need to justify the course expense to your employer? Listed below are reasons why investing in the School AMPS will give you and your employer big rewards. Feel free to use any of the text below when crafting your rationale for investing in School AMPS certification.

What is the School AMPS?

The School Version of the Assessment of Motor and Process Skills (School AMPS) is a one-of-a-kind schoolwork task assessment. There are no other assessments available that measure a student’s quality of schoolwork task performance while the student is in the classroom. Many typical occupational therapy assessments focus on testing body functions or parents/teachers report. But with the School AMPS, I observe my students in their natural classroom setting, doing schoolwork tasks assigned by the teacher, and demonstrating the schoolwork performance that the teacher commonly sees.

The School AMPS provides a thorough measure of schoolwork task performance because School AMPS measures reflect a student’s level of physical effort/clumsiness, inefficiency, safety, and independence.

This powerful assessment was designed by occupational therapists and only occupational therapists can be certified in the School AMPS.

With a School AMPS certification, I can efficiently and thoroughly assess schoolwork task performance for any student between the ages 3-15.

The School AMPS has been standardized on over 9300 students internationally.

How will certifying in the School AMPS improve my work as an occupational therapist?

I will collaborate more efficiently and effectively with teachers and other staff because I will be observing and assessing the actual tasks that are problems for the student, in the student’s actual classroom.

For each student I test with the School AMPS, I can generate objective measures of the observed quality of schoolwork task performance. The School AMPS objective measures reflect the amount of physical effort/clumsiness, inefficiency, safety risk, and need for assistance that the student demonstrated when doing schoolwork tasks.

I can easily generate a School AMPS Results Report which graphically illustrates a student’s School AMPS measures and reports criterion- and norm-referenced interpretations of the School AMPS measures.

I can use the School AMPS to test another occupational therapist’s students (provided the occupational therapist is also School AMPS certified) and all School AMPS measures can be reliably compared throughout the student’s occupational therapy service.
By certifying in the School AMPS, I am adding professional certification to my professional portfolio that does not require additional training.

I can use School AMPS measures to:

- Document schoolwork performance status on evaluations, reevaluations, and discharge summaries
- Develop effective and targeted interventions
- Demonstrate that occupational therapy is making a measurable difference for a student
- Support a student’s need for occupational therapy services

**What will my employer gain if I become School AMPS certified?**

By having a School AMPS-certified occupational therapist, our department will increase its current roster of specialties and services.

The School AMPS can be used to improve continuity of care: any School AMPS-certified occupational therapist can test a student at different times throughout the student’s occupational therapy service and the School AMPS measures can be reliably compared.

Easier collaboration and goal setting with teachers, parents, and other staff because I am not removing the student for evaluation, but evaluating the student in the classroom, where the student’s problems are observed.

**Where’s the research about the reliability and validity of the School AMPS?**