

The Soft Skills Inventory: Developmental procedures and psychometric analysis

Psychological Reports

0(0) 1–29

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DOI: 10.1177/0033294120979933

journals.sagepub.com/home/prx

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Abstract

When attending and participating in Higher Education, students face a multitude of personal, social, and work-related challenges, which may increase the risk of developing psychopathological symptomatology. To date, there is no instrument that grasps the non-technical skills that may help prepare students to respond to these challenges. This paper presents the development and psychometric properties of the Soft Skills Inventory (SSI). The inventory was developed based on theoretical and empirical findings on the skills associated with academic and professional success, and on students' perception. The SSI was tested with 2030 Portuguese students (of which 77.1% were female) using a two-stage approach: item calibration and model generation ($n = 1033$), followed by model validation ($n = 997$). Item calibration

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