



STATE OF NEW JERSEY

DEPARTMENT OF EDUCATION

A Memo from the New Jersey Department of Education

Date: December 13, 2019
To: Chief School Administrators, Charter School and Renaissance School Project Leads
Route To: County Supervisors of Child Study, Directors of Special Education, Building Principals
From: Peggy McDonald, Assistant Commissioner
Division of Student Services

New Jersey Positive Behavior Support in Schools Enrollment Opens to a New Cohort of Schools

Applications are being accepted for professional development offered through the New Jersey Positive Behavior Support in Schools (NJ PBSIS), a collaboration between the New Jersey Department of Education's Office of Special Education and The Boggs Center, Rutgers Robert Wood Johnson Medical School. NJ PBSIS provides comprehensive professional development to support the implementation of tiered interventions for a range of school intervention needs including conduct, behavior and social and emotional wellness. The NJ PBSIS project, which is funded through *IDEA Part B*, annually enrolls a cohort of schools that participate in a three-year professional development experience to design and implement a plan for their tiered intervention system.

There is no cost to schools or districts to enroll or to receive the professional development. However, schools must successfully complete a competitive application process.

The following provides a summary of the enrollment steps:

1. The building principal must participate in one of the orientation webinars (see table below).
2. Following the webinar, the principal must complete the Request for Invitation.
3. Once the Request for Invitation is completed, the school is added to the invitation request list.
4. In March, the list is submitted to the NJDOE's Office of Special Education for review and approval.
5. Following NJDOE approval, building principals are invited to participate in an application webinar.
6. Following the webinar, the principal must complete the Request for Application.
7. Principals are notified within six weeks the status of their application.

An orientation webinar session will provide a robust description of how tiered interventions can address a range of intervention needs within the school setting, including conduct and behavior; attendance; culture and climate; classroom management; and social and emotional wellness. Specific topics covered during this session will include:

- An overview of the intervention tiers, purpose and features;
- A description of the planning process and how that process applies across a range of intervention needs;
- A description of the training and coaching process;
- Priority commitments a principal makes when enrolling their school in the NJ PBSIS network; and
- Review of the enrollment steps.

It is important to note that PBSIS offers a continuum of supports that can supplement academic tiered supports.

Principals interested in enrolling their school in the NJ PBSIS network **must attend one of the orientation sessions and complete the follow-up survey after the webinar** in order for their school to be eligible to apply.

Date	Time	Registration
12/20/19	10-11:30 a.m.	Register online
1/21/20	10-11:30 a.m.	Register online
2/19/20	10-11:30 a.m.	Register online
3/11/20	10-11:30 a.m.	Register online

For additional information about becoming a NJ PBSIS school, please contact Dr. Sharon Lohrmann at sharon.lohrmann@rutgers.edu or at (732) 507-8804.

c: Members, State Board of Education
Lamont O. Repollet, Ed.D., Commissioner
NJDOE Staff
Statewide Parent Advocacy Network
Garden State Coalition of Schools
NJ LEE Group