



STATE OF NEW JERSEY
DEPARTMENT OF EDUCATION

A Memo from the New Jersey Department of Education

Date: September 30, 2020
To: Chief School Administrators, Charter School and Renaissance School Project Leads
Route To: *Elementary and Secondary Education Act* Title I Coordinators
From: Peggy McDonald, Ed.D., Assistant Commissioner
Division of Student Services
Deadline: December 4, 2020

Title I Comparability of Services Report for 2020-21 Available in EWEG

As a requirement of the *Elementary and Secondary Education Act (ESEA)*, the New Jersey Department of Education (NJDOE) must ensure that districts receiving Title I funds provide services in their Title I schools that, when taken as a whole, are at least comparable to services provided in schools that are not receiving Title I funds. In order to fulfill this requirement, the NJDOE annually collects a Comparability of Services Report from each Title I district.

To give districts ample time to complete the 2020-21 Comparability of Services Report, the application is now available in the Electronic Web-Enabled Grant (EWEG) system through the NJDOE's [Homeroom](#) portal. (Directions for entering the data are available within the Comparability Report through the Instructions link on the Overview tab.) Districts will be able to submit the 2020-21 Comparability Report starting October 15, 2020, with a **due date of Friday, December 4, 2020**.

Annually, Title I districts must calculate comparability of services using current data. For 2020-21, districts must use the student enrollment and staffing information submitted in the October 15, 2020 NJSMART counts. Please note that all student and staffing information must be updated in the EWEG system before the December 4, 2020 deadline for the final submission of the 2020-21 Comparability Report. The NJDOE will randomly sample districts for monitoring and data verification in the spring of 2021.

If a district does not meet the Comparability of Services requirement in the EWEG system, NJDOE staff will work with the district to conduct further calculations. If the district still does not meet the Comparability of Services requirement, NJDOE staff will assist the district in the development of a corrective action plan that, when implemented no later than February 2021, will bring the district into compliance.

General questions concerning the Comparability of Services requirement should be directed to Anthony Hearn at anthony.hearn@doe.nj.gov. Questions specific to grade span grouping should be directed to the EWEG Help Desk at eweghelp@doe.nj.gov.

c: Members, State Board of Education
Kevin Dehmer, Interim Commissioner of Education
NJDOE Staff
NJ LEE Group

New Jersey Charter Schools Association
Title I Committee of Practitioners
Statewide Parent Advocacy Network
Garden State Coalition of Schools