



STATE OF NEW JERSEY

DEPARTMENT OF EDUCATION

A Memo from the New Jersey Department of Education

Date: August 4, 2021

To: Chief School Administrators, Charter School and Renaissance School Project Leads, Administrators of Approved Private Schools for Students with Disabilities

Route To: Special Education Directors, Administrators of Programs for Students who are Deaf and Hard of Hearing, Transition Coordinators

From: Kathy Ehling, Assistant Commissioner
Division of Student Services

Register by: September 13, 2021 (Space is limited)

Orientation Sessions for Administrators: *Foundations of Community-Based Instruction Series Training Opportunities*

The Community-Based Instruction (CBI) project is a collaboration between the New Jersey Department of Education's Office of Special Education and The Boggs Center on Developmental Disabilities at Rutgers University and is funded with Individuals with Disabilities Education Act (IDEA) Part-B funds. CBI is an evidence-based practice that supports the transition from school to adult life and promotes the successful inclusion of students with disabilities in their communities. When the community (traditional or virtual) is regularly utilized as a learning environment, it provides practical and meaningful opportunities for students to develop skills through authentic experiences. This helps to promote greater independence, interdependence, and enhanced quality of life once a student reaches adulthood. This is achieved through the acquisition, application, and generalization of skills utilized within careers, postsecondary education/training, and community activities, while still aligning to the New Jersey Student Learning Standards and students' Individualized Education Program (IEP) goals. The *2021-2022 Foundations of CBI Series* provides knowledge and guidance in establishing or enhancing CBI in a school or district.

As administrative support is vital to the success of a CBI program, district staff may not participate in the *2021-2022 Foundations of CBI Series* unless a district administrator has participated in the *Orientation Session for Administrators*. Participants will receive information about available training formats for the *Foundations of CBI Series*, eligibility criteria and commitments, technical assistance, as well as the administrative and organizational supports needed to guide these practices. To accommodate diverse schedules, *Orientation Sessions for Administrators* will be offered on Tuesday, September 14, 2021; Wednesday, September 15, 2021; and Thursday, September 16, 2021. Two sessions will be offered on each day, one from 9 a.m. to 10 a.m., and another from 1 p.m. to 2 p.m.

Registration

Please register for one of the Administrator Orientation Training Sessions listed below. Capacity is limited, so early registration is recommended.

Tuesday, September 14, 2021

- [9-10 a.m. Session Zoom Registration](#)
- [1-2 p.m. Session Zoom Registration](#)

Wednesday, September 15, 2021

- [9-10 a.m. Session Zoom Registration](#)
- [1-2 p.m. Session Zoom Registration](#)

Thursday, September 16, 2021

- [9-10 a.m. Session Zoom Registration](#)
- [1-2 p.m. Session Zoom Registration](#)

Contact Information

If you have questions about the Orientation Session for Administrators or the CBI staff training opportunities, please contact Nikkilee Pedersen at nikkilee.pedersen@rutgers.edu or Lisa Corliss at lisa.corliss@rutgers.edu.

c: Members, State Board of Education
Angelica Allen-McMillan, Ed.D., Acting Commissioner of Education
NJDOE Staff
Statewide Parent Advocacy Network
Garden State Coalition of Schools
NJ LEE Group