



STATE OF NEW JERSEY

DEPARTMENT OF EDUCATION

A Memo from the New Jersey Department of Education

Date: August 24, 2022
To: Local Educational Agency Leads
Route To: Staff Involved with Assessment
From: Jordan Schiff, Ed.D., Acting Assistant Commissioner
Division of Teaching and Learning Services

Assessment Literacy Supports for the Field

As New Jersey prepares for the 2022-2023 school year and educators continue to focus on learning acceleration due to the COVID-19 pandemic, the New Jersey Department of Education (NJDOE) strives to provide supports to the field in building educator capacity in assessment literacy. This includes creating, collecting, and utilizing high quality student data to accelerate learning. Assessment literacy is a critical step in preparing educators to accelerate learning, to measure ongoing student learning, and to better understanding New Jersey's statewide assessment system.

The NJDOE is excited to inform New Jersey educators of high-quality assessment literacy resources which can be leveraged at any time during the school year as part of the professional learning strategy for the 2022-2023 school year and beyond. Developed in collaboration with the United States Education Department alongside practicing New Jersey educators, these resources are collectively known as the [Assessment Design Toolkit](#) (Toolkit), and are currently hosted by the WestEd Center for Standards, Assessment and Accountability. The Toolkit is a series of modules and accompanying resources about assessment literacy and holds valuable insights for educators today as they work to assess student growth during the learning acceleration process. The modules are designed to be easily turn-keyed in schools and districts, thus providing the flexibility needed for educational leaders.

Assessment Design Toolkit Information:

The Toolkit was developed in response to state requests for help in improving assessment literacy among educators. The primary audience for the modules are teachers, principals and other district leaders. The videos and supplemental materials contained in the modules are meant to assist educators write and select well-designed assessments.

The [Assessment Design Toolkit](#) includes 13 modules divided into four parts:

- [Part I: Key Concepts](#)
- [Part II: Five Elements of Assessment Design](#)
- [Part III: Writing and Selecting Assessments](#)
- [Part IV: Reflecting on Assessment Design](#)

A brief [orientation video](#) to the modules will provide more information.

Contact Information

Additional supports and training opportunities will be forthcoming. If you have any questions or comments regarding this training resource, please contact the Office of Professional Learning at teachpd@doe.nj.gov. As always, the NJDOE appreciates your engagement in recognizing the importance of supporting assessment literacy in New Jersey.

c: Members, State Board of Education
NJDOE Staff
Statewide Parent Advocacy Network

NJ LEE Group
Garden State Coalition of Schools