Date: September 28, 2022

To: Local Educational Agency Leads

Route To: Elementary and Secondary Education Act Title I Coordinators

From: Kathy Ehling, Assistant Commissioner

Division of Educational Services

Deadline: December 2, 2022

Title I Comparability of Services Report for 2022-2023 Available in EWEG

As a requirement of the Elementary and Secondary Education Act (ESEA), the New Jersey Department of Education (NJDOE) must ensure that local educational agencies (LEAs) 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 LEA.

To give LEAs ample time to complete the 2022-2023 Comparability of Services Report, the application is now available in the Electronic Web-Enabled Grant (EWEG) system through the NJDOE's <u>Homeroom</u> portal. (Directions for entering the data are available within the Comparability Report through the Instructions link on the Overview tab.) LEAs will be able to submit the 2022-2023 Comparability Report starting October 15, 2022, with a **due date of Friday, December 2, 2022.**

Annually, Title I LEAs must calculate comparability of services using current data. For 2022-2023, LEAs must use the student enrollment and staffing information submitted in the October 15, 2022 counts. Please note that all student and staffing information must be updated in the EWEG system before the December 2, 2022 deadline for the final submission of the 2022-2023 Comparability Report. The NJDOE will randomly sample LEAs for monitoring and data verification in the spring of 2023.

If an LEA does not meet the Comparability of Services requirement in the EWEG system, NJDOE staff will work with the LEA to conduct further calculations. If the LEA still does not meet the Comparability of Services requirement, NJDOE staff will assist the LEA in the development and implementation of a corrective action plan to bring the LEA into compliance with this requirement by no later than February 2023.

Contact Information

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.

Members, State Board of Education
NJDOE Staff
Statewide Parent Advocacy Network
Garden State Coalition of Schools
NJ LEE Group