Date: July 24, 2023

To: Local Educational Agency Leads, Administrators of Approved Private Schools for Students with

Disabilities, Administrators of Nonpublic Schools

Route To: School Principals, School Nurses, School Facilities Managers

From: Angelica Allen-McMillan, Ed.D., Acting Commissioner

New Jersey Department of Education Judith M. Persichilli, R.N., B.S.N., M.A.

Commissioner New Jersey Department of Health

Deadline: July 26, 2023

Final Call for Enrollment in the State School HEPA Distribution Program

The New Jersey Department of Health (NJDOH) is briefly reopening the School HEPA Distribution Program to accept final requests over the next three days. As schools are aware, this program was first announced on March 29, 2023, and the goal of the program is to provide layered protection from respiratory illnesses and address other airborne irritants such as dust, mold, pollen, etc.

All New Jersey schools are eligible to receive portable high-efficiency particulate air (HEPA) filtration purifiers and up to six corresponding replacement HEPA filters per unit at no cost to schools from a state-sponsored vendor. Each purifier/six filter set is designed to last for at least 3.5 school years.

Schools should request the number of HEPA purifiers and corresponding filters they desire and can manage. NJDOH will review all requests for HEPA purifiers; please note, receiving the requested number of HEPA purifiers is not guaranteed.

To express interest, please complete the survey (link below) as soon as possible – and no later than 11:59 p.m. ET on Wednesday, July 26, 2023. Surveys should be completed at the school-level. The program continues to be voluntary for local educational agencies (LEAs) and nonpublic schools.

The school-level survey is available at the following link: <u>NJDOH K-12 High Efficiency Particulate Air (HEPA) Unit and Filter Program</u>. A flyer summarizing the State School HEPA Distribution Program and other resources can be found on the <u>NJDOH Information for Schools</u> webpage.

Please note that only those requests submitted through the NJDOH program link will be reviewed for participation in the program. Requests should not be submitted to the MSC Industrial Supply Co. Inc. (MSC) or Medify Air. Any request submitted to MSC or Medify Air, whether through Medify Air's independent intake survey, email or telephone call will not be fulfilled through the Program and will not be processed by or paid for by NJDOH.

Thank you to all the K-12 schools that have already participated in the School HEPA Distribution Program.

Contact Information

For questions about the program or survey, contact $\underline{\text{COVID.SchoolTesting@doh.nj.gov}}$.

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