



STATE OF NEW JERSEY

DEPARTMENT OF EDUCATION

A Memo from the New Jersey Department of Education

Date: June 28, 2023

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

Route To: District Directors of Special Education, Special Education Teachers, Related Service Providers, Child Study Team Members

From: Kathy Ehling, Assistant Commissioner
Division of Educational Services

Deadline: September 29, 2023

Community of Practice for Teachers and Professionals of Students with Autism

A community of practice (CoP) is a group of individuals who share a common interest, meet on a regular basis, and seek to improve practice (Wenger & Traynor, 2015). The goal of the CoP for Autism (CoPA) is to bring together New Jersey educators with a common interest in/connection to autism spectrum disorders to share information to improve instructional practices. The CoPA meets four times a year at the New Jersey Department of Education's Learning Resource Center-Central and hosts a variety of speakers who have presented on topics such as inclusion, social skills instruction, improving post-school outcomes, and addressing challenging behaviors.

The CoPA is intended for teachers and professionals (e.g., related service providers, child study team members) from kindergarten through grade 12 who support students with autism spectrum disorders. Members of the CoPA will be invited to attend four in-person meetings at the Learning Resource Center-Central in Trenton, New Jersey. Attendees are encouraged to attend all four meetings. If interested, please use the link below to register for the CoPA. Attendance is limited to 50 participants.

Meetings will be held on:

- October 11, 2023
- November 29, 2023
- February 7, 2024
- April 3, 2024

Registration

Fill out the online [Registration Form](#).

Contact information

For additional information, please email oseinfo@doe.nj.gov. For additional resources on educating students with autism, please visit the Office of Special Education [Learning Opportunities website](#).

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