





Date: March 29, 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

Manuel M. Da Silva, Chief Executive Officer New Jersey Schools Development Authority

Deadline: April 12, 2023

Enrollment in the State School HEPA Distribution Program

The New Jersey Department of Health (NJDOH), in conjunction with New Jersey Department of Education (NJDOE) and New Jersey Schools Development Authority (NJSDA), would like to introduce the School HEPA Distribution Program. 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* three corresponding replacement HEPA filters **per unit** at no-cost to schools from a state-sponsored vendor. Each purifier/three filter set is designed to last for two full school years. NJDOH will review all requests for HEPA purifiers, therefore receiving the requested number of HEPA purifiers is not guaranteed. Placement and location of HEPA air purifiers should be prioritized in spaces where students frequent, especially those who may be medically fragile (e.g., classrooms and nurses' offices). Schools should request the number of HEPA purifiers and corresponding filters they desire and can manage.

To express interest, please complete the survey link below. Surveys should be completed at the **school-level**. This opportunity will assist schools in continuing to provide a safe, clean air environment for in-person instruction. The program is voluntary for local educational agencies (LEAs) and nonpublic schools.

Please complete the school-level survey via the following link no later than Wednesday, April 12, 2023: NJDOH K-12 High Efficiency Particulate Air (HEPA) Unit and Filter Program.

A flyer summarizing the State School HEPA Distribution Program and other resources can be found on the NJDOH <u>Information for Schools webpage</u>.

Contact Information

Please contact COVID.SchoolTesting@doh.nj.gov with any questions about the program or survey.

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