



STATE OF NEW JERSEY

# DEPARTMENT OF EDUCATION

A Memo from the New Jersey Department of Education

Date: May 10, 2023  
To: Local Educational Agency Leads  
Route To: School Nurses, School Physicians, Athletic Directors, Principals  
From: Kathy Ehling, Assistant Commissioner  
Division of Educational Services

## Review and Approval of Preparticipation Physical Evaluation Forms

The New Jersey Department of Education (NJDOE) has received several inquiries regarding the review and approval of the Preparticipation Physical Evaluation Forms (PPE), which are required for student athletes to participate in school sports. The NJDOE is currently in the process of updating the [Frequently Asked Questions](#) sections addressing the PPE. In the interim, school districts are encouraged to be mindful of the PPE confidentiality and notification requirements.

School districts that have purchased or use a system where PPE forms are sent electronically to the school physician for review and approval are advised that PPE forms contain confidential health information and are required to be handled in compliance with the same confidentiality as other student education and health records. For additional information and guidance, you may wish to visit the U.S. Department of Education's page on [protecting student privacy](#).

In addition, districts are reminded pursuant to N.J.A.C. 6A:16-2.2(h)1. v., that school districts are required to "provide to the parent, written notification signed by the school physician stating approval of the student's participation in athletics based upon the medical report or the reasons for the school physician's disapproval of the student's participation." The use of an electronic signature or stamp on the notification form is acceptable, but an email notification does not qualify as a signature. Once the form is signed electronically or stamped, then it may be forwarded to the parent.

For questions, please contact [healthyschools@doe.nj.gov](mailto:healthyschools@doe.nj.gov).

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