



STATE OF NEW JERSEY  
**DEPARTMENT OF EDUCATION**

A Memo from the New Jersey Department of Education

Date: November 15, 2023  
To: Local Educational Agency Leads, Directors of Approved Private Schools for Students with Disabilities  
Route To: Special Education Directors, Child Study Team Members, School Counselors  
From: Kathy Ehling, Assistant Commissioner  
Division of Educational Services

### Office of Special Education Online Resources

The Office of Special Education (OSE) values its mission of providing “educators, families and other stakeholders with the technical assistance, professional learning in evidence-based practices, and access to instructional materials and resources necessary for students with Individualized Education Programs (IEPs) to achieve the goals established for all New Jersey students.” This quarterly broadcast memo, along with the [OSE’s Newsletter](#), highlights various tools and resources accessible to the public. Each resource is curated with the intent to make an equitable impact across regions, consider diverse perspectives of stakeholders, and empower individuals who impact the students we serve.

The following resources and websites can now be accessed online:

- [Individualized Education Program \(IEP\) Toolkit, Topics 1-3](#)
  - IEP Toolkit 1: Premeeting Preparation
  - IEP Toolkit 2: Developing Present Levels of Academic Achievement and Functional Performance (PLAAFPs)
  - IEP Toolkit 3: Writing Goals and Objectives
- [Understanding the IDEA and FAPE in Relation to Functional Skills: A Guide for Teachers and Child Study Team Members](#)
- [Special Education in Action Newsletter, Issue 9 \(Fall 2023\)](#): Highlighting the Benefits of a Farm to School Initiative to Increase Community-Based Inclusive Opportunities

In addition to these resources, ongoing opportunities for action, learning and collaboration are highlighted at [Special Education Engagement Website](#). For more information or questions, please contact the Office of Special Education at [OSEinfo@doe.nj.gov](mailto:OSEinfo@doe.nj.gov).

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