



STATE OF NEW JERSEY
DEPARTMENT OF EDUCATION

A Memo from the New Jersey Department of Education

Date: October 11, 2023
To: Local Educational Agency Leads
Route To: Elementary and Secondary Education Act Title I Coordinators
From: Kathy Ehling, Assistant Commissioner
Division of Educational Services
Deadline: December 1, 2023

Title I Comparability of Services Report for 2023-2024 Available in Electronic Web-Enabled Grant System

As a requirement of the Elementary and Secondary Education Act (ESEA), the New Jersey Department of Education (NJDOE) must ensure that local educational agencies (LEAs) receiving Title I funds (Title I LEAs) provide services in their Title I schools that, when taken as a whole, are at least comparable to services provided in schools that are not receiving Title I funds. To fulfill this requirement, the NJDOE annually collects a Comparability of Services Report (Comparability Report) from each Title I LEA.

To give LEAs ample time to complete the 2023-2024 Comparability of Services Report, the application is now available in the Electronic Web-Enabled Grant (EWEG) system through the NJDOE's [Homeroom](#) portal. (Directions for entering the data are available within the Comparability Report through the instructions link on the overview tab.) LEAs will be able to submit the 2023-2024 Comparability Report starting October 15, 2023, with a **due date of Friday, December 1, 2023**.

Annually, Title I LEAs must calculate comparability of services using current data. For 2023-2024, LEAs must use the student enrollment and staffing information submitted via New Jersey Standards Measurement and Resource for Teaching (NJSMART) for the fall 2023 Student Identification (SID) and Staff Member Identifier (SMID) Snapshots. Please note that all student and staffing information must be updated in the EWEG system before the December 1, 2023 deadline for the final submission of the 2023-2024 Comparability Report. The NJDOE will randomly sample LEAs for monitoring and data verification in the spring of 2024.

If an LEA does not meet the Comparability of Services requirement in the EWEG system, NJDOE will work with the LEA to conduct further calculations. If the LEA still does not meet the Comparability of Services requirement, NJDOE will assist the LEA in the development and implementation of a corrective action plan to bring the LEA into compliance with this requirement no later than February 2024.

General questions concerning the Comparability of Services requirement should be directed to the Office of Fiscal and Data Services at OFDS@doe.nj.gov. Questions specific to grade span grouping should be directed to the EWEG Help Desk at eweghelp@doe.nj.gov.

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

