



STATE OF NEW JERSEY

DEPARTMENT OF EDUCATION

A Memo from the New Jersey Department of Education

Date: April 3, 2024
To: Local Educational Agency Leads
Route To: Educators and Leaders of Preschool to Third Grade
From: Cary Booker, Assistant Commissioner
Division of Early Childhood Services

Kindergarten Implementation Guidelines

The Kindergarten Implementation Guidelines are intended to maximize the impact of universal preschool by advancing a comprehensive and seamless educational continuum from preschool through grade three (P-3) in New Jersey's local educational agencies (LEAs). LEAs are encouraged to use the guidelines as a springboard for discussion and action, ensuring that kindergarten is a developmentally appropriate place for teaching and learning in New Jersey's preschool through grade twelve education system. *The Kindergarten Implementation Guidelines* reflect the collaborative efforts of the New Jersey Department of Education and early childhood professionals across the state bringing current research and best practices together in one usable document for school administrators, teachers, instructional coaches, and families to meet the needs of all learners and provide guidance and resources to effectively implement the components of a high-quality developmentally appropriate kindergarten program.

Please go to the Division of Early Childhood Services [P-3 Alignment webpage](#) to download this document.

Kindergarten Implementation Guidelines Virtual Overview Trainings

Audience: Educators who will turnkey information within district

Overview Session

Description: The focus will be an overview of the *Kindergarten Implementation Guidelines* explaining the document's purpose, structure, and professional development potential.

This overview will also reflect a P-3 alignment and will lay the foundation for how to establish and maintain a high-quality kindergarten program. This session will provide the background of developmentally appropriate practices for 5- and 6-year-old children.

Virtual Overview Dates – Go to the NJDOE's [Calendar of Events](#) webpage for registration.

Friday, May 17, 2024, 1-2 p.m.

Friday, June 14, 2024, 1-2 p.m.

In the Fall of 2024, free virtual professional development sessions will be offered to P-3 educators to learn more about best practices highlighted in the *Kindergarten Implementation Guidelines* based on current research supporting high-quality kindergarten programs.

Contact Information

For more information, contact Beth Wharton, K-3 Coordinator for the NJDOE's Division of Early Childhood Services, Office of Kindergarten to Third Grade Education, at K-3Office@doe.nj.gov.

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