



STATE OF NEW JERSEY
DEPARTMENT OF EDUCATION

A Memo from the New Jersey Department of Education

Date: May 15, 2024
To: Local Educational Agency Leads
Route To: District Directors of Special Education, Child Study Team Members, Principals
From: Kathy Ehling, Assistant Commissioner
Division of Educational Services

Call for Applications for Person-Centered Approaches in Schools and Transition (PCAST)

The New Jersey Department of Education's (NJDOE's) Office of Special Education (OSE), in partnership with the Boggs Center on Developmental Disabilities, invites school districts to apply for participation in the [Person-Centered Approaches in Schools and Transition](#) (PCAST) 2024-2025 Cohort. Person-centered approaches are applicable to all students ages 3 through 21, and each year a select cohort of school districts receives intensive multi-year customized training and technical assistance on this practice.

PCAST staff from the Boggs Center work collaboratively with school staff to explore person-centered approaches including, but not limited to, facilitating individual person-centered plans, implementing person-centered practices in classrooms, and developing internal training capacity and more person-centered IEP meetings and processes when applicable. The major focus of this practice is to improve postschool outcomes of students.

The PCAST project has been built on a foundation of respect, trust, and partnership with educators, families, and students working together to provide holistic person-centered supports for students in both primary and secondary education. All person-centered approaches involve a continuous process of discovery that engages educators, students, and their families with the goal of developing a deep understanding of each student and supporting their personal vision for a positive future.

Application Process

Please complete the online [application](#) by May 24, 2024. For questions or issues related to the application, contact Kellyann Giudice at kellyann.giudice@rutgers.edu.

Contact Information

For questions regarding this opportunity, please contact the OSE at 609-376-9060 or via email at OSEinfo@doe.nj.gov.

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