



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: Principals, Assistant Superintendents of Curriculum and Instruction, Supervisors, Instructional Coaches, and Teachers
From: Jorden Schiff, Ed.D., Assistant Commissioner
Division of Teaching and Learning Services
Deadline: June 3, 2024

New Jersey Department of Education Seeks Input on Information Literacy Standards

Pursuant to N.J. Stat. § 18A:7F-4.4 the New Jersey Department of Education (NJDOE) is required to adopt student learning standards in Information Literacy. Information literacy, as defined by the law, is a set of skills that enables an individual to recognize when information is needed and to locate, evaluate, and effectively use the needed information. The NJDOE is committed to engaging stakeholders in collaborative efforts to ensure the standards are rigorous, research-based, and appropriate to prepare students to be college- and career-ready.

The NJDOE seeks to establish a highly qualified and diverse committee of volunteers with broad stakeholder representation. In addition, because artificial intelligence is an essential component of information literacy, we request that individuals with experience in artificial intelligence use in the K-12 classroom apply to serve on the information literacy standards writing committees. A self-nomination process will be used to identify educators, content experts, and other qualified stakeholders to serve on one of four separate committees during different points in the standards development process based on applicant qualifications and experience.

Committee Eligibility and Dates

The four committees, the required qualifications, and mandatory time commitments are as follows:

- **Draft Standards Writing Committee:** This committee is responsible for the writing of the individual core ideas and performance expectations.
 - o Two full-day meetings to be held on Monday, June 24 (in-person) and Tuesday, June 25 (virtual).
 - o Four, 2-3 hour virtual meetings, on July 9, July 16, July 23, and July 30.
 - o One half-day virtual meeting on Tuesday, August 13.
 - o One virtual meeting on Thursday, September 26 (after school hours).
 - o The Draft Standards Writing committee will include up to 20 educators who meet at least one of the following criteria:
 - Licensed, currently employed school library media specialists with at least 10 years of experience in K-12 school librarianship (special consideration will be given to applicants who possess additional instructional certification[s]).
 - Current classroom educators or administrators with 10 years of experience, an advanced degree, and a resume indicating experience in instruction/research of information literacy-related topics.
 - Special consideration will be given to educators, school library media specialists, and/or administrators with experience using Artificial Intelligence applications in the classroom.
- **Expert Review Committee:** This committee will review current literature on information literacy, provide feedback on the draft core ideas and performance expectations, and evaluate them for content, alignment, and grade appropriateness.

- o Two full-day meetings to be held on Monday, June 24 (in-person) and Tuesday, June 25 (virtual).
- o Four, 2-3 hour virtual meetings, to be held on July 11, July 18, July 25, and August 1.
- o One half-day virtual meeting on Tuesday, August 13.
- o One virtual meeting on Thursday, September 26 (after school hours).
- o The expert review committee will include up to eight educators who meet at least one of the following criteria:
 - Licensed, currently employed school library media specialists with at least 10 years of experience in K-12 school librarianship (special consideration will be given to applicants who possess additional instructional certification[s]).
 - Educators with advanced degrees in information science and/or advanced coursework related fields.
 - Information Literacy experts and/or higher education faculty with advanced degrees or academic contributions in the fields of Information Science and/or Artificial Intelligence.
 - Special consideration will be given to experts with content area expertise in the field of Artificial Intelligence.
- **Implementation Supports Committee:** This committee will review the draft standards, provide examples for content-based application of the performance expectations, and assist with constructing content area-specific information literacy guides.
 - o Two full-day meetings to be held on Monday, June 24 (in-person) and Tuesday, June 25 (virtual).
 - o Two, 2-3 hour virtual meetings on Wednesday, July 24, and Wednesday, August 7.
 - o One half-day virtual meeting on Tuesday, August 13.
 - o One virtual meeting on Thursday, September 26 (after school hours).
 - o The implementation supports committee will include up to 30 members who meet at least one of the following criteria:
 - Licensed, currently employed school library media specialists (special consideration will be given to applicants who possess additional instructional certification[s])
 - K-12 educators who retired in or after 2022.
 - Current classroom educators, administrators, or other school staff with a resume indicating experience in instruction/research of information literacy-related topics, including artificial intelligence.
- **College and Career Readiness Committee:** This committee will review the draft standards and provide feedback from a stakeholder perspective.
 - o One full-day virtual orientation meeting to be held on Tuesday, August 6.
 - o One full-day virtual review session to be held on Tuesday, August 20.
 - o One virtual meeting on Thursday, September 26 (after school hours).
 - o The College and Career Readiness Committee will include up to 30 members who meet at least one of the following criteria:
 - Public librarians, members of local school boards, higher education faculty, community groups, business and industry, parents, students.
 - Qualified applicants must provide a resume indicating extensive knowledge of post-secondary outcomes for students.

How to Apply

Individuals interested in volunteering for the information literacy standards construction process should complete and submit a [committee participation form](#) no later than 11:59 pm on June 3, 2024. Previous committee participation does not preclude individuals from applying. Applicants may state their interest in participating on more than one committee if they have all the necessary qualifications.

If an applicant is actively employed by a Local Education Agency (LEA), they must obtain Chief School Administrator (CSA) approval via the [CSA Attestation Form](#) by Monday, June 17, 2024. LEA employees will not be able to participate without CSA attestation.

Applicants will be notified of their selection and committee assignment(s) by email on or before June 7, 2024. Committee members will be awarded professional development hours for committee meetings.

Contact Information

For questions regarding the process, please contact the Office of Standards at InfoLiteracy@doe.nj.gov.

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