



STATE OF NEW JERSEY

# DEPARTMENT OF EDUCATION

A Memo from the New Jersey Department of Education

Date: October 2, 2024  
To: Local Educational Agency Leads  
Route To: School Business Administrators, Web User Administrators, Principals and School Leads  
From: Kathy Ehling, Assistant Commissioner  
Division of Educational Services

## 2024 ESSA Accountability Process Overview

The New Jersey Department of Education (NJDOE) is currently conducting its annual Every Student Succeeds Act (ESSA) accountability process using data from the 2023-2024 school year. This broadcast provides updates and expected timelines for that process, as well as a status update on amendments to New Jersey's ESSA State Plan.

### School Identification and Exit

As outlined in [New Jersey's current approved ESSA State Plan](#), the standard timeline for identifying and exiting schools for comprehensive support and improvement (CSI) and additional targeted support and improvement (ATSI) is every three years. Since schools were identified in and exited from these two categories of support in fall 2023 (based on data from the 2022-2023 school year), the NJDOE will not be identifying schools for CSI or ATSI status in fall 2024. The next identification of schools for CSI and ATSI status will occur in fall 2026 (based on data from the 2025-2026 school year.)

States are required to identify schools for targeted support and improvement (TSI) annually, so the NJDOE will be identifying schools for TSI status in fall 2024. Additionally, any schools currently identified for TSI status for the 2024-2025 school year will be eligible to exit status in June 2025 if exit criteria are met.

Schools are identified for TSI status if they have one or more student groups that have missed annual targets and performed below the state average for all available indicators for two years in a row. For the fall 2024 identification, the NJDOE will be reviewing whether student groups have met annual targets for the 2022-2023 and 2023-2024 school years. The 2023-2024 targets for academic achievement and graduation rate are posted on the [NJDOE Accountability webpage](#).

### Timeline for 2024 Accountability Process

The NJDOE expects to share the embargoed 2024 ESSA Profiles with LEAs by the end of October 2024. The ESSA Profiles allow LEAs to review their 2023-2024 data for all ESSA indicators (Academic Achievement, Academic Progress, Graduation Rates, Progress toward English Language Proficiency, and Chronic Absenteeism) at the district, school, and student group level. The profiles also show status in meeting annual targets for each indicator, which can be utilized to complete the needs assessment in the ESEA Consolidated grant application, the Title I schoolwide plan, and the school improvement plan.

In addition to the ESSA Profiles, the NJDOE will share student-level data for LEAs to review through NJDOE Homeroom. LEAs will be notified through a broadcast when the profiles and Homeroom data are available for review.

The NJDOE will finalize TSI identification and exit decisions and notify schools by January 31, 2025 if they have been identified for the 2025-2026 school year or will be exiting in June 2025. The NJDOE will not release identification and exit decisions publicly until the School Performance Reports are released in spring 2025.

**Amendments to New Jersey's ESSA State Plan**

The NJDOE's proposed amendments to its ESSA State Plan made [available](#) for public comment in July 24 – August 28, 2024 are still pending. These changes will not be included in the accountability process implemented in fall 2024. The NJDOE will provide status updates on those proposed amendments as they become available.

For more information about the amendments to the ESSA State Plan, see the [NJDOE ESSA State Plan webpage](#).

**Contact Information**

Contact the Office of Performance Management with any questions about the accountability system at [PerformanceManagement@doe.nj.gov](mailto:PerformanceManagement@doe.nj.gov).

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