



STATE OF NEW JERSEY

DEPARTMENT OF EDUCATION

A Memo from the New Jersey Department of Education

Date: September 11, 2024
To: Local Educational Agency Leads
Route To: Building Administrators, Special Education Directors, Child Study Team Members, Teachers
From: Kathy Ehling, Assistant Commissioner
Division of Educational Services

2024 Special Education Data 360 Series: “Actionable Insights”

About Special Education Data Reporting

In accordance with the mandates outlined in the Individuals with Disabilities Education Act (IDEA 2004), as specified in section 616(b)(2)(C)(ii)(1), each state is required to report annually to the public on the evaluation of each local education agency (LEA) aligned to the State Performance Plan (SPP) and Annual Performance Report (APR). These reports encompass local data alongside state targets for SPP indicators for 2022-2023, also known as Federal Fiscal Year 2022 (FFY2022). Each year, following the public release of the SPP/APR, Local Special Education Profiles, and Determinations, the Office of Special Education provides informational sessions and training to stakeholders to enhance data literacy, quality, and action.

These reports serve as a tool for evaluating performance compared to state targets and evaluating strengths or gaps in outcomes, including patterns and shifts in data over time. Key metrics, such as placement in the least restrictive environment, disproportionality, and post-secondary outcomes, may be used to highlight strengths in services while also identifying areas to be considered when developing improvement plans.

Training and Support

This year, the Office of Special Education will be releasing its second Data360 series with the theme of “Actionable Insights”. The series will include five, 90-minute virtual sessions from September through January. Each session will be held from 9:30 a.m. to 11:00 a.m. and cover the following topics:

- [Session I: Navigating Special Education Data and Determinations](#) (September 26, 2024)
- [Session II: Improving Data Quality](#) (October 15, 2024)
- [Session III: Digging Deeper – “So what, now what?”](#) (November 11, 2024)
- [Session IV: Turning Insight into Action – “Bringing it All Together”](#) (December 16, 2024)
- [Session V: Enhancing Engagement with Parents and Families \(including parent advisory groups, SEPAGs\)](#) (January 14, 2025)

Registering for the Series

Each session can be accessed through the links provided above. Although the sessions are designed to build upon each other, attending them in order is not mandatory. You must register for each session separately, and then you will receive a specific link for each. Registration will close 48 hours prior to the webinar.

Contact Information

For questions, please contact the Office of Special Education at OSEdata@doe.nj.gov.

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