



STATE OF NEW JERSEY

DEPARTMENT OF EDUCATION

A Memo from the New Jersey Department of Education

Date: September 4, 2024
To: Local Educational Agency Leads
Route To: Educators and Leaders of Preschool to Third Grade
From: Cary A. Booker, Assistant Commissioner
Division of Early Childhood Services (DECS)

First Through Third Grade Implementation Guidelines

The First through Third Grade Implementation Guidelines is a resource which empowers all educational professionals to provide children with developmentally appropriate learning experiences. This document also aims to empower families with the knowledge and resources needed to actively participate in their child's education. Used in tandem with the *Preschool Implementation Guidelines* and the *Kindergarten Implementation Guidelines*, it is intended to provide 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 all first through third grade classrooms are developmentally appropriate spaces. *The First through Third Grade 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.

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

First through Third Grade Implementation Guidelines Virtual Overview

Audience: Educators who will turnkey information within their LEA

Overview of Session:

Description: The focus will be an overview of the *First through Third Grade 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 first through third grade program. This session will provide the background of developmentally appropriate practices for children in first through third grade.

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

October 24, 2024: 2:00-2:30 PM

October 28, 2024: 3:00-3:30 PM

Contact Information

For more information, contact Melanie Harding, K-3 Coordinator of Mathematics and Science, Office of Kindergarten to Third Grade Education, at K-3Office@doe.nj.gov.

c: Members, State Board of Education
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