



STATE OF NEW JERSEY

# DEPARTMENT OF EDUCATION

A Memo from the New Jersey Department of Education

Date: August 20, 2025  
To: Local Educational Agency Leads  
Route To: Directors of Special Education  
From: Kathy Ehling, Assistant Commissioner  
Division of Educational Services

## 2025-2026 Back-to-School Office of Special Education Resources

In preparation for the 2025-2026 school year, the New Jersey Department of Education (NJDOE), Office of Special Education (OSE) has released a collection of updated and newly developed resources available on the [OSE website](#). The materials include eLearning modules, guidebooks, and guidance documents that address a comprehensive range of topics, including alternate assessment, discipline, dispute resolution, and specialized supports, and are designed to enhance educational outcomes for students with disabilities while ensuring compliance with federal and state regulations. Below are quick links to the past year's guidance memos shared with the special education community. Additionally, highlighted new resources and professional development opportunities are also linked below.

### Broadcast Memos Released in 2024-2025:

- [Guidance on Additional Annual IEP Meeting Notice Requirements](#)
- [NJDOE Seeks Stakeholder Feedback on Special Education Administrative Code \(N.J.A.C. 6A:14\)](#)
- [Clarification on Required Timelines for Students with Disabilities](#)
- [Clarification on the Intersection Between Prescriptions and Referrals for Special Education Services](#)
- [List of State-Imposed Special Education Rules, Regulations or Policies](#)
- [Guidance for Timelines for Conducting Reevaluations](#)
- [Speech-Language Services Guidance](#)
- [Using IDEA Funds for Community Based Instruction](#)
- [Information About Vocational Rehabilitation Services for Students with Disabilities](#)
- [Notice of Changes to the Procedures for Mediation and Due Process Hearing Requests](#)
- [Release of Transportation Considerations for Students with Disabilities Resource Guide](#)
- [Student Information Card for School Bus Drivers and School Bus Aides Serving Students with Disabilities](#)
- [Notice of Changes to the Procedures for Due Process Hearing Requests](#)
- [Guidance for Special Education Program Options: In-Class Resource and In-Class Support](#)

**Resources:**

## Alternate Assessment

- [Alternate Assessment Website](#)
- [Alternate Assessment Eligibility Determination Roadmap](#)

## Discipline

- [Discipline Guidebook for Students with Disabilities \(2025\)](#)
- [Discipline Website](#)

## Restraint and Seclusion

- [Restraint and Seclusion Guidebook for Students with Disabilities \(2025\)](#)

## Significant Disproportionality

- [Significant Disproportionality Website](#)
- [Significant Disproportionality Information and Resource Guide](#)

## IDEA

- [IDEA Allowable Uses Resource Document: Non-Regulatory Guidance](#)

## Autism Spectrum Disorder

- [Best Practice for New Jersey Public School Behavior Analysts](#)

## Behavior Supports and Interventions

- [Emotional and Behavioral Program Quality Indicators \(EBPQIs\)](#)

## Dyslexia

- [New Jersey Dyslexia Handbook: A Guide to Early Literacy Development and Reading Struggles](#)

## Military Student Supports

- [Support for the Military Connect Families Website](#)
- [Guidance for Military Families with Students in Special Education](#)

## Students who are Deaf or Hard of Hearing

- [Scope of Services for Professionals in Deaf Education](#)
- [Educational Planning Guide for Students who are Deaf or Hard of Hearing \(Printable\)](#)
- [Educational Planning Guide for Students who are Deaf or Hard of Hearing \(Fillable\)](#)

## Post-Secondary Transition

- [Quality Indicators for Programs Serving Students with Disabilities 18-21 Years Old](#)
- [New Jersey Pathways to Postsecondary Success Website](#)

**Professional Development Opportunities**

## Professional Learning Series Opportunities for the 2025-2026 School Year

- [Professional Learning Series Offerings and Details](#)
- [Community of Practice Opportunity for Child Study Team Members](#)

For additional information or clarification, please direct questions to the Office of Special Education at (609) 376-9060 or [OSEinfo@doe.nj.gov](mailto:OSEinfo@doe.nj.gov).

c: Members, State Board of Education

NJDOE Staff Statewide

Parent Advocacy Network

Garden State Coalition of Schools

