



STATE OF NEW JERSEY

DEPARTMENT OF EDUCATION

A Memo from the New Jersey Department of Education

Date: August 27, 2025
To: Local Education Agency Leads
Route To: Special Education Directors, Transition Coordinators, Child
Study Team Members, Special Education Teachers
From: Kathy Ehling, Assistant Commissioner
Division of Educational Services

Training Opportunities Offered through the Community-Based Instruction Project

The New Jersey Department of Education's Office of Special Education, in partnership with the Boggs Center on Disability and Human Development at Rutgers University, is offering training opportunities on Community-Based Instruction (CBI). CBI is an evidence-based practice that supports the successful transition from school to adult life and the full inclusion of students with disabilities in their communities. When the community is utilized as a learning environment, it provides practical, meaningful opportunities for students to develop skills in authentic experiences, thus promoting greater self-determination, interdependence, and enhanced quality of life in adulthood.

The CBI Project provides a variety of trainings for school personnel aimed at expanding and quality implementation of CBI across New Jersey. This is achieved through in-person and virtual workshops and community of practice events that address the acquisition, application, and generalization of skills utilized within careers, postsecondary education, and the community while aligning to the New Jersey Student Learning Standards and students' Individualized Education Program (IEP) goals.

This year, training opportunities will include the *Foundations of CBI Training Series for New Personnel*, *Job Coaching for Career Exploration in Community Settings*, *CBI for Younger Students: Building a Foundation for the Future*, *Marketing Matters: Making the Most of CBI through Community Partnerships*, *Quality Career Development: Making the Most of CBI for Career Exploration*, CBI Overviews, Virtual Community of Practice Sessions, an annual *CBI Showcase* and additional supplemental trainings based on the needs of CBI practitioners.

Registration

Please find all training opportunities with descriptions and instructions for registering on the [CBI Project Page](#) on the Boggs Center Website.

Contact Information

If you have questions about CBI training opportunities, please contact the CBI Project Team: Nikki Pedersen at Nikkilee.Pedersen@rutgers.edu, Jocelyn Muse-Taylor at Jocelyn.MuseTaylor@rutgers.edu, or Jessica DiPane at Jessica.DiPane@rutgers.edu.

Note

There is no charge to participate in any of the training opportunities. Funding for this training is provided through the Individuals with Disabilities Education Act, Part B.

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