



STATE OF NEW JERSEY

# DEPARTMENT OF EDUCATION

A Memo from the New Jersey Department of Education

Date: August 6, 2025

To: Local Educational Agency Leads, Administrators of Approved Private Schools for Students with Disabilities

Route to: Teachers

From: Kathy Ehling, Assistant Commissioner  
Division of Education Services

Deadline: August 29, 2025

## **Working Group to Advise on Individualized Education Program (IEP) Improvements**

The New Jersey Department of Education (NJDOE) is seeking volunteers to serve on the IEP Improvement Working Group, which will launch in September 2025. Established under P.L. 2025, c.107, the purpose of this group is to examine current practices related to the development and implementation of Individualized Education Programs (IEPs) across local education agencies (LEAs), with a focus on enhancing procedural consistency and ensuring meaningful parental involvement. The group will review existing practices in New Jersey and other states and provide the NJDOE with actionable recommendations for improvement. Members will be appointed by the Commissioner of Education in alignment with the Individuals with Disabilities Education Act (IDEA) and P.L. 2025, c.107. We welcome nominations of individuals who bring diverse perspectives and a deep commitment to improving outcomes for students with disabilities.

The council must consist of a minimum of twenty-two (22) and a maximum of twenty-five (25) members. Regional representation will be considered upon appointment. Potential members must represent the following demographics:

- Three (3) members who are employed as full-time teachers in a public school in the State who teach students with IEPs;
- Two (2) members who are employed as a principal in a public school in the State;
- Two (2) members who are employed as a director of special education in the State;
- Two (2) members of a school board of two different school districts in the State;
- Two (2) members who are employed as chief school administrators in a public school in the State;
- Four (4) or five (5) members who are parents of students receiving special education services, at least one each at the prekindergarten, elementary, middle, and high school levels in a public school in the State;
- Four (4) members who have expertise working with, or representing, students with disabilities, including two members who have direct experience working with Black, Latino, and immigrant students with disabilities; and
- Four (4) members who are part of a child study team in a public school in the State with one member employed as a school psychologist, one member employed as a school

social worker, one member employed as a learning disabilities teaching consultant (LDT-C), and one member employed by a related services provider.

The working group will convene over eight weeks with meetings being held both in-person and virtually. Dates and times will be scheduled following formal appointment by the Commissioner. Attendance is required. Working group members are volunteers and will not be reimbursed for their services.

Interested parties should complete the [application form](#) and email their resume to [SpedAdvisoryCouncil@doe.nj.gov](mailto:SpedAdvisoryCouncil@doe.nj.gov) no later than August 29, 2025. Questions should be directed to the same email address or by telephone at (609) 376-9125.

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