



STATE OF NEW JERSEY

DEPARTMENT OF EDUCATION

A Memo from the New Jersey Department of Education

Date: December 17, 2025
To: Local Educational Agency Leads
From: Kathy Ehling, Assistant Commissioner
Division of Educational Services

Indicator 7: Preschool Outcomes – Child Outcomes Summary (COS) Updates

This broadcast includes the updates and additional resources related to Indicator 7: Preschool Outcomes – Child Outcomes Summary (COS) Process. Indicator 7 in New Jersey's State Performance Plan measures the percent of preschool children aged 3 through 5 with Individualized Education Programs (IEPs) who demonstrate improved social-emotional skills, early academics, and behavior. This indicator is part of a broader effort to ensure that children with disabilities receive the support and services necessary to achieve their full potential. Please familiarize yourselves with the evolution of Indicator 7 for preschool outcomes to ensure accurate and consistent implementation.

For a complete understanding of all changes, and revisions to existing resources, view the full presentation on the [NJDOE: Indicator 7 Webpage](#). This broadcast only covers the key updates and should not be considered a comprehensive resource.

Updates

- The timeline for completion of the COS at entry and exit has been updated from within 60 days to within 30 days of starting or ending preschool special education services.
- A new NJDOE Developmental Milestone Tool to be used to support age-anchoring. This means it will help us gauge a child's development by comparing their skills to the milestones typically achieved by children of the same age.
- The revised COS Forms (A and B) now align with the Homeroom Preschool Application, and they include the student's educational placement at the start and end of preschool services, as well as their proposed kindergarten placement upon exit.
- All of the resources mentioned above, plus additional materials, are available on the [NJDOE: Indicator 7 Webpage](#).

Contact Information

Please direct question to the Office of Special Education at COSSupport@doe.nj.gov.

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