



STATE OF NEW JERSEY DEPARTMENT OF EDUCATION

A Memo from the New Jersey Department of Education

Date: December 23, 2025
To: Local Educational Agency Leads
Route To: District Directors of Curriculum and Instruction, District Directors of Special Education and Pupil Services, District Supervisors of Special Education, All District Principals, Assistant/Vice Principals, Related Service Providers, Interventionists, and members of Intervention and Referral Services (I&RS) teams.
From: Kathy Ehling, Assistant Commissioner
Educational Services
Deadline: January 9, 2026

Guiding the Implementation of the New Jersey Tiered System of Supports (NJTSS) Community of Practice

The New Jersey Department of Education (NJDOE), in partnership with Rutgers University, is excited to offer a five-session virtual community of practice (CoP) titled *Guiding the Implementation of the NJTSS*, convening once a month from January through May. During each interactive session, participants will learn about, apply, test, and reflect on applying different components of the NJTSS.

Sessions are designed to accommodate a variety of applications including serving students with disabilities with tiered supports, applying NJTSS to support math instruction, and NJTSS in secondary education settings. Each virtual CoP will begin with a whole group session followed by breakouts specifically tailored to the contexts members are seeking to apply to their NJTSS. Sessions will conclude with assignments completed on site that will support districts in advancing, refining, or establishing their tiered systems of support.

The first session in this CoP, *Laying the Foundation for NJTSS: District Self-Assessment*, will take place on Tuesday, January 13, from 11 a.m. to 2:00 p.m. Districts may register a team of three to five participants, inclusive of school and district officials, who are able to commit to attending all five CoP sessions (see Table 1). Participants will receive certificates of attendance, and districts participating in all five sessions will receive certificates of completion.

CoP space is limited to ensure meaningful opportunities for participation. Participants are encouraged to gather in their physical locations to engage with one another during the sessions. This will allow more than 3 to 5 staff members to engage in the session.

Pre-Registration Requirements

Through Rutgers Continuing Education your team will be asked to:

- Upload local flowcharts and/or manuals describing current intervention and referral services processes.
- Answer the following required questions as part of the pre-registration process:
 - In 2-4 sentences, describe a district-level goal related to the advancement or implementation of NJTSS.
 - Which aspect of your current intervention system needs the most clarity or coherence?
 - What changes could indicate stronger or more consistent NJTSS implementation in your district?

Table 1: Guiding the Implementation of NJTSS Information

Session Dates	Intended Audience	Location	Time
Session 1: Laying the Foundation for NJTSS: District Self-Assessment Tuesday, January 13	Administrators, school leaders, NJTSS coordinators, NJTSS implementation leads, program coordinators, school counselors, interventionists, and related school personnel.	Virtual	All sessions are scheduled to take place from 11 a.m. to 2 p.m.
Session 2: Self-Assessment Results & Resource Mapping Wednesday, February 11			
Session 3: Strategic Planning for NJTSS Implementation Thursday, March 26			
Session 4: Data-Driven Decision Making and Continuous Improvement Wednesday, April 22			
Session 5: Sustainability and Scaling NJTSS Thursday, May 28			

Key Steps/Actions:

1. [Preregister](#) through the Rutgers Continuing Education pre-registration survey.
2. Complete all required fields, including the information for the district contact person.
3. Upload the required document(s).
4. Complete the required application questions.
5. Click “submit.”
6. **Once the preregistration survey is completed, you will receive an email inviting your team to register for the first session.**

Registration is free. Participants will receive a certificate of attendance for each session, as well as a certificate of completion for districts who complete the full fifteen hours.

For additional resources on the New Jersey Tiered System of Supports (NJTSS), please visit the [New Jersey Tiered System of Supports](#) website and the [NJTSS Resources](#) webpage.

Contact Information

For questions, please contact the Office of Student Support Services at njtss@doe.nj.gov.

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