



STATE OF NEW JERSEY

DEPARTMENT OF EDUCATION

A Memo from the New Jersey Department of Education

Date: March 21, 2025
To: Local Educational Agency Leads
From: Kevin Dehmer, Commissioner

Statement from Education Commissioner Kevin Dehmer on Trump Administration's Executive Order Calling for the Dismantling of the U.S. Department of Education

The Executive Order (EO) issued by the Trump Administration on March 20 calls for the dismantling of the U.S. Department of Education. This does not change the New Jersey Department of Education's (NJDOE) efforts to ensure all New Jersey students have equitable access to a high-quality education and achieve academic excellence. For several decades, the U.S. Department of Education has served as a valuable partner to New Jersey in protecting the rights of our students and funding critical supplemental programs for learners who need the most help. The details regarding how or whether these valuable services and programs will continue will require further dialogue. Meanwhile, the NJDOE stands ready to continue building on our record of providing school districts with the critical resources and supports they need to help all students unlock their full learning potential.

Federal funding supplements the \$12.1 billion the State provides in K-12 formula aid, as detailed in Governor Murphy's FY26 budget proposal. The Governor has increased K-12 aid by 48 percent since the Administration took office – a record of unprecedented support for New Jersey public schools. Upholding every student's right to a free public education is essential not only to New Jersey values, but to New Jersey law. Whether in funding or in [ensuring access to supportive educational environments](#), the NJDOE will continue its longstanding efforts to foster a world-class education system that meets the needs of all students.

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