



STATE OF NEW JERSEY

DEPARTMENT OF EDUCATION

A Memo from the New Jersey Department of Education

Date: October 29, 2025
To: Local Educational Agency Leads
Route To: Bilingual/ESL Supervisors, Content Area Supervisors, Curriculum Supervisors
From: Kathy Ehling, Assistant Commissioner
Division of Educational Services
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Division of Teaching and Learning

Sheltered English Instruction (SEI) Online Professional Development Course

This memo serves to inform and encourage local educational agency (LEA) participation in an online professional development opportunity focused on Sheltered English Instruction (SEI) – a critical approach to ensuring access to academic content for multilingual learners (MLs). As New Jersey schools continue to welcome a growing number of MLs, SEI equips educators across all content areas with the tools and strategies to help students engage meaningfully with grade-level curriculum, promoting both English language proficiency and academic success. The course, created in collaboration with Stockton University, is at no cost to participants and offers flexible, asynchronous learning modules.

As defined in [N.J.A.C. 6A:15](#), SEI is a language instruction educational program (LIEP) designed to make academic content comprehensible to multilingual learners. SEI bridges content learning and English language development by incorporating practical, research-based supports such as:

- Scaffolding academic language;
- Integrating visuals, realia, and hands-on learning;
- Adapting texts and assignments;
- Promoting interaction and purposeful language use; and
- Aligning instruction with New Jersey Student Learning Standards and WIDA English Language Development Standards.

LEAs are encouraged to:

- Identify staff, at all levels, who would benefit from SEI training and have them register for the course;
- Incorporate SEI participation into existing professional development plans; and
- Support SEI implementation through professional learning communities (PLCs), coaching, and collaborative follow-up sessions.

Registration is available [online](#).

Contact Information

For questions or assistance, please contact ml@doe.nj.gov.

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