



STATE OF NEW JERSEY

DEPARTMENT OF EDUCATION

A Memo from the New Jersey Department of Education

Date: October 8, 2025
To: Local Educational Agency Leads
Route To: ESEA Program Directors, Grant Directors, School Business Administrators
From: Kathy Ehling, Assistant Commissioner
Division of Educational Services
Deadline: December 5, 2025

Title I Comparability of Services Report for 2025-2026 Available in the New Jersey Grants Management System (NJGMS)

As a requirement of the Elementary and Secondary Education Act (ESEA), and reauthorized under the Every Student Succeeds Act (ESSA), the New Jersey Department of Education (NJDOE) must ensure that local educational agencies (LEAs) receiving Title I funds (Title I LEAs) provide services in their Title I schools that, when taken as a whole, are at least comparable to services provided in schools that are not receiving Title I funds. To fulfill this requirement, the NJDOE annually collects a Comparability of Services Report from each Title I LEA.

To give LEAs ample time to complete the 2025-2026 Comparability of Services Report, the application is now available in the New Jersey Grants Management System (NJGMS) platform, which must be accessed through the Electronic Web-Enabled Grant (EWEG) system by clicking on the NJGMS bridge link. Directions for completing the report are available through the instructions link on the overview tab of the report. LEAs will be able to submit the report starting on the due date of the Application of State School Aid (ASSA). The report is **due on Friday, December 5, 2025**.

Annually, Title I LEAs must calculate comparability of services using current data. For 2025-2026, LEAs must use student enrollment from the ASSA, which is also accessible through the NJDOE's Homeroom portal. Please note that all student and staffing information must be updated in the EWEG system before the December 5, 2025 deadline. The NJDOE will randomly sample LEAs for monitoring and data verification in spring 2026.

The NJDOE will perform advanced calculations for all Title I LEAs that do not meet the Comparability of Services requirement in the report. A Title I LEA that does not meet the Comparability of Services requirement with advanced calculations must develop and implement a corrective action plan to bring the LEA into compliance with this requirement no later than February 2026.

General questions concerning the Comparability of Services requirement should be directed to the Office of Fiscal and Data Services at OFDS@doe.nj.gov. Questions specific to grade span grouping within the report should be directed to the EWEG Help Desk at eweghelp@doe.nj.gov.

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