



STATE OF NEW JERSEY DEPARTMENT OF EDUCATION

A Memo from the New Jersey Department of Education

Date: May 20, 2026

To: Local Educational Agency Leads, Administrators of Approved Private Schools for Students with Disabilities, Leads for State Funded Early Childhood Centers (contracted childcare and Head Start programs), Leads for Receiving Schools

Route To: Business Administrators, Certified Educational Facilities Managers

From: Joseph Howe, Deputy Commissioner
Division of Finance and Business Services

Deadline: June 30, 2026

2025-2026 Statement of Assurance Submission for Lead in School Drinking Water

All regulated entities must complete and submit the 2025-2026 Statement of Assurance (SOA) concerning lead in school drinking water to the New Jersey Department of Education (NJDOE). The SOA must be submitted online using the [2025-2026 Statement of Assurance Form](#) no later than **June 30, 2026**.

The annual SOA is required to attest that lead in school drinking water requirements are being met and that compliance is being maintained. This is a non-testing year, pursuant to N.J.A.C. 6A:26-12.4. The next statewide testing year is 2027–2028.

Regulated entities include:

- New Jersey public school districts
- Charter and Renaissance schools
- Jointure and educational services commissions
- Approved private schools for students with disabilities (APSSDs)
- State-funded early childcare facilities, pursuant to N.J.A.C. 6A:13A (contracted childcare and Head Start programs)
- Receiving schools as defined by N.J.A.C. 6A:14-7.1(a)

All regulated entities, including those previously granted testing exemptions, must submit the annual SOA. In addition, the most recent testing results, exceedance notification letters (if applicable), and exemption approvals (if applicable) must remain publicly posted on the entity's website.

State-funded early childhood facilities must comply with NJDOE lead in school drinking water regulations and submit the annual SOA to the NJDOE in addition to any applicable New Jersey Department of Children and Families (NJDCF) requirements.

Additional information is available on the NJDOE's [Testing for Lead in School Drinking Water webpage](#). Questions may be directed to leadtesting@doe.nj.gov.