



STATE OF NEW JERSEY DEPARTMENT OF EDUCATION

A Memo from the New Jersey Department of Education

Date: October 14, 2026

To: Local Educational Agency Leads, Administrators of Approved Private Schools for Students with Disabilities

Route To: Principals, Supervisors of Special Education, Directors of Special Education, Teachers, Related Service Providers, Child Study Team Members, Instructional Coaches, BCBAs, and Staff Involved with Teaching Students with Autism

From: Dr. Tiffany Neill, Acting Chief Academic Officer
Division of Academic Services

Deadline: December 4, 2026

Call for Presentation Proposals: 2nd Annual Autism in Education Virtual Conference 2027

The New Jersey Department of Education (NJDOE) Office of Special Education (OSE) is pleased to announce the Call for Presentation Proposals for the 2nd Annual Statewide Virtual Autism in Education Conference 2027, a one-day professional learning event dedicated to strengthening educational experiences and outcomes for students with autism. Aligned with the NJDOE's commitment to ensuring that every student is safe, supported, and successful, the conference will highlight evidence-based, inclusive, and practical approaches that promote student access, participation, belonging, learning, and meaningful progress across school environments.

We invite teachers, school leaders, child study team members, related service providers, school-based behavior analysts, and other professional learning facilitators to submit proposals for 60-minute live virtual sessions offered between 9:00 a.m. and 3:30 p.m. on Friday, April 16, 2027. Proposals may address students and programs from kindergarten through high school and transition years, and should be relevant across a range of educational environments, including general education classrooms, co-teaching and inclusive models, resource programs, special classes, and community-based or transition settings.

This annual conference supports New Jersey educators with high-quality, evidence-based professional learning that strengthens their capacity to create educational environments in which students with autism are safe, meaningfully included, appropriately supported, and positioned for success. The virtual format provides educators across the state with an accessible opportunity to learn from research, practice, and one another at no cost.

We Are Seeking Proposals That

- Highlight evidence-based and research-informed practices that improve educational experiences and outcomes for students with autism.
- Promote safe, supportive, and inclusive learning environments that foster engagement, belonging, participation, and well-being.

- Share practical strategies and approaches that strengthen student independence, self-determination, communication, academic achievement, and preparation for life beyond school.
- Highlight effective collaboration and authentic implementation experiences across educators, families, related service providers, behavior analysts, administrators, and other educational partners.

Our Goals

Through the Autism in Education Conference, NJDOE OSE seeks to:

- Strengthen educator and school team capacity to ensure students with autism are safe, supported, included, and successful.
- Advance evidence-based and research-informed practices that promote meaningful access, participation, belonging, and positive student outcomes across educational settings and access to the Least Restrictive Environment (LRE) by reducing barriers to learning, communication, and participation alongside peers.
- Bridge research and practice by supporting feasible, responsive implementation that reflects student strengths, needs, communication differences, and learner variability.
- Foster statewide collaboration and shared learning among educators and other professionals supporting students with autism.

Submission Details:

- **Proposal deadline:** December 4, 2026
- **Submit to:** [Submission Form Portal](#)
- **Selected presenters will be notified by:** January 29, 2027
- Presentations will be delivered live via Microsoft Teams on April 16, 2027, between 9:00 am and 3:00 pm EST. Selected presenters will be provided with detailed instructions prior to the conference date and presenter training sessions.
- Presenters should be available for live Q&A and engagement with attendees on the day of the event.

Contact information

Please direct questions to the Office of Special Education via email at OSEInfo@doe.nj.gov.