



State of New Jersey  
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April 5, 2016

**TO:** Chief School Administrators  
Charter School and Renaissance School Project Lead Persons  
Directors of Special Education

**FROM:** John Worthington, Acting Director  
Office of Special Education Programs

**SUBJECT:** Notice of Grant Opportunity: Preparing Students with Individualized Education Programs (IEPs) for Life in the Community, Integrated Employment, and Post-School Success

The New Jersey Department of Education (NJDOE), Office of Special Education Programs, is pleased to announce a Notice of Grant Opportunity (NGO) to promote positive post-school outcomes for students with disabilities through the local education agency's (LEA) implementation of model practices and program components. Through this NGO, the NJDOE will provide LEAs the opportunity to establish a model program for students with disabilities aged 16 to 21 by implementing transition-focused services within the local community, based on each student's Individualized Education Program. The model programs will increase the number of students with disabilities who are prepared for the transition from school to adult life. Program service options will include, but are not be limited to, the following: Person-centered planning, community-based instruction, and systematic instruction during age-appropriate activities in the community, such as integrated, competitive employment, adult education classes including college courses, public transportation utilization, shopping, recreational activities with peers without disabilities, and facilitating linkages between students and adult service agencies (e.g. the New Jersey Division of Vocational Rehabilitation Services and New Jersey Division of Developmental Disabilities).

This limited competitive grant program will support up to three LEAs for three years beginning September 1, 2016. Grant funds will be used for developing and implementing specific model practices and program components associated with the successful transition of students with disabilities aged 16 to 21 from school to adult life. LEAs are expected to implement activities needed to prepare school personnel, parents and family members, and students for the implementation of the model program.

Additional details about this NGO can be found on the Office of Grants Management website at <http://www.state.nj.us/education/grants/gropps.shtml>. **The Preparing Students with IEPs for Life in the Community, Integrated Employment, and Post-School Success grant applications are due June 9, 2016.**

JW/LDN/bf

c: Members, State Board of Education  
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