



STATE OF NEW JERSEY
DEPARTMENT OF EDUCATION

A Memo from the New Jersey Department of Education

Date: June 15, 2022
To: Local Educational Agency Leads
From: Kathy Ehling, Assistant Commissioner
Division of Educational Services
Deadline: July 29, 2022

IDEA-B State Fiscal Year 2023 Entitlement Allocations and Electronic Grant Application Information

The IDEA-B State Fiscal Year (SFY) 2023 allocations are now posted on the New Jersey Department of Education's (NJDOE) [Special Education webpage](#). The Section 611 (Basic 3-21) and Section 619 (Preschool 3-5) awards are distributed on a formula basis to school districts, charter schools, renaissance school projects, and state agencies. A detailed description of the data used in the individual allocation formulas may be found under the allocation tabs within the online grant application. Eligible agencies should use these amounts to plan for the use of the funds. Districts will notice changes in allocations due to various factors, such as available federal funding, the district's enrollment and poverty factors, and the number of children with disabilities being served. Also, be advised that base allocation adjustments may be required during the project period, as per 34 CFR §300.705(b)(2) and §300.816(b).

SFY 2023 IDEA-B Electronic Grant Submission.

The SFY 2023 IDEA grant application must be completed in the NJDOE's [Electronic Web Enabled Grant System \(EWEG\)](#), a statewide program designed to provide coordination among all grant applications. The SFY 2023 IDEA application is now available in the EWEG system. **The applications are due July 29, 2022.** Instructions are provided for each section within the application. Local Educational Agencies (LEAs)/State Agencies that submit their applications in substantially approvable form by the due date may begin to obligate the funds as of July 1, 2022.

Grant Project Period Timelines/Obligation of Funds

The LEAs/State Agencies may obligate these funds beginning July 1 of the fiscal year for which the funds were appropriated (SFY 2023 through September 30 of the second successive fiscal year SFY 2025). This maximum period includes a 15-month period of initial availability, plus a 12-month period for carryover.

The NJDOE receives the IDEA Section 611 award from the U.S. Department of Education in two separate awards (July 1, 2022 and October 1, 2022); the full allocations for these programs will not be available until October 1, 2022. Therefore, districts should anticipate *obligating* no more than 14 percent of their SFY 2023 IDEA Basic allocation for activities planned for July 1, 2022 through September 30, 2023.

LEA Determinations/Significant Disproportionality

In accordance with 34 CFR §300.647, the State utilizes a risk ratio to identify districts with significant disproportionality for the 2022-2023 grant year. The NJDOE is available to provide technical assistance to those districts identified for significant disproportionality. As in previous years, annual determinations can be found within the online application.

Districts identified for significant disproportionality are required to reserve 15 percent of their total allocation (Basic + Preschool x .15) directed to implement Comprehensive Coordinated Early Intervening Services (CCEIS),

according to 34 CFR §300.226. Beginning in the 2019-2020 grant year, as per §300.646(d), LEAs identified for significant disproportionality may use the CCEIS funds for:

- Children age 3 through grade 12;
- Children who are not currently identified as needing special education or related services but who need additional academic and behavioral support;
- Children currently identified as needing special education or related services (funds cannot be used exclusively for this group); and
- Professional development and educational and behavioral evaluations, services, and supports.

The activities must address the factors, policies, practices, and/or procedures contributing to the significant disproportionality. For additional information on CCEIS, please refer to the Significant Disproportionality resources available on the NJDOE's [Special Education webpage](#).

LEAs that are not identified for significant disproportionality may still choose to voluntarily reserve 15 percent of their total allocation to implement Coordinated Early Intervening Services (CEIS). In contrast to the information set forth above, LEAs that implement CEIS may only serve an identified group of at-risk students in grades K-12 who are not yet eligible for special education and related services. More information on CEIS is available on the NJDOE's [Special Education Resources webpage](#).

ARP-IDEA

Lastly, LEAs were allocated a supplemental award from The American Rescue Plan Act of 2021 during Federal Fiscal Year 2021 (SFY22), known as ARP-IDEA. These funds were provided to help recover from the impact of the coronavirus pandemic and to safely reopen schools and sustain safe operations. As a reminder, ARP-IDEA funds are subject to the same requirements as IDEA, Part B. LEAs were encouraged to budget these supplemental funds for non-recurring activities as ARP-IDEA is a one-time funding opportunity that will not be available to sustain ongoing activities. NJDOE also reminds LEAs to maintain their state and local expenditures for special education with these funds as the Maintenance of Effort (MOE) requirements have not been waived. LEAs will not be required to submit a new application for the final 12-month period of availability and may continue to draw down these funds until September 30, 2022, closing out in a Final Expenditure Report.

For questions regarding the application process, please direct inquiries to your County Special Education Specialist, or contact Barbara Haake in the NJDOE's Office of Fiscal and Data Services via email at barbara.haake@doe.nj.gov.

c: Members, State Board of Education
Angelica Allen-McMillan, Ed.D., Acting Commissioner of Education
NJDOE Staff
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