



State of New Jersey

DEPARTMENT OF EDUCATION

PO Box 500

TRENTON, NJ 08625-0500

PHILIP D. MURPHY
Governor

TAHESHA L. WAY
Lt. Governor

KEVIN DEHMER
Commissioner

September 15, 2025

Ms. Caia Schlessinger, Conference Coordinator
New Jersey Teachers of English to Speakers of Other Languages/
New Jersey Bilingual Educators Inc
230 Ashland Avenue
Cherry Hill, NJ 08003

Re: Approval of Overnight Travel Waiver for 2026 NJTESOL/NJBE

Dear Ms. Schlessinger:

The New Jersey Department of Education has reviewed your request submitted on behalf of the New Jersey Teachers of English to Speakers of Other Languages/New Jersey Bilingual Educators Inc. (NJTESOL/NJBE) seeking a waiver of the in-state overnight travel restriction to support the Spring Conference in New Brunswick, New Jersey scheduled for May 19 – 21, 2026.

Under N.J.S.A. 18A:11-12, N.J.A.C. 6A:23A-7.11 and the State Department of Treasury OMB Circular 16-11, reimbursement for in-state overnight travel is generally prohibited. However, in accordance with N.J.A.C. 6A:23A-7.11(c), exceptions may be granted for events that are broad and multidisciplinary in scope, comprised of content-rich educational programming, and offer important professional development opportunities or required training. After carefully reviewing your submission, **it has been determined that the conference meets these criteria and is hereby approved.**

Waiver Approval Details:

- **Overnight lodging reimbursement** is approved for May 19 and 20, 2026 **only**.
- Reimbursement is limited to attendees whose **one-way commute exceeds 50 miles**.
- **Registration fees, mileage and meals** may be reimbursed per the OMB Circulars 20-04 and 16-11.
- Districts must ensure attendance is limited to staff whose roles align with the conference's purpose or continuing education requirements.

We appreciate NJTESOL/NJBE's commitment to advancing science education and wish you a successful event.

Sincerely,

Kevin Dehmer
Commissioner

KD/DC/mp
c: Senior Staff
Executive County Superintendent