



STATE OF NEW JERSEY

DEPARTMENT OF EDUCATION

A Memo from the New Jersey Department of Education

Date: June 5, 2024
To: Local Educational Agency Leads
Route To: Principals, Anti-Bullying Coordinators, Anti-Bullying Specialists
From: Kathy Ehling, Assistant Commissioner
Division of Educational Services
Deadline: October 31, 2024

2023-2024 Program for Determining Grades Under the *Anti-Bullying Bill of Rights Act*

The New Jersey Department of Education (NJDOE) is announcing the opening of the 2023-24 School Self-Assessment for Determining Grades under the *Anti-Bullying Bill of Rights Act* (ABR). Schools submit local information into the online Self-Assessment program, and the data is used to grade each public school and district's efforts to implement the ABR pursuant to *N.J.S.A.18A:17-46*. The deadline to submit the Self-Assessments is October 31, 2024.

Key steps/actions

The school safety/school climate team in each school is required to complete the Self-Assessment and have a school-level user enter the school's ratings into the online system that is accessed by selecting the "HIB-Grades" link on the [NJDOE Homeroom](#) webpage. The district-level user must review the Self-Assessment for accuracy and request each school make any changes as necessary.

The chief school administrator, charter school lead person or renaissance school project lead person is responsible for presenting each completed Self-Assessment at a public Board of Education (BOE) meeting in order to obtain public comment and BOE approval. Once BOE approval is granted, the chief school administrator, charter school or renaissance school project lead person will formally submit the ratings by certifying the Statement of Assurances in the Self-Assessment system.

To help schools meet the requirements of this program, the NJDOE has posted online [guidance documents and resources](#) that include a school Self-Assessment summary report and an activities checklist titled "Overview of Activities."

If a completed, certified Self-Assessment is not submitted by the October 31, 2024 deadline, the NJDOE may issue a zero (0) for that school's grade, which will also have a negative effect on the district's grade.

Contact Information

For any questions, please email HIBGrades@doe.nj.gov. Thank you for your ongoing efforts to provide safe and positive learning conditions for our students.

c: Members, State Board of Education
NJDOE Staff
Statewide Parent Advocacy Network
Garden State Coalition of Schools
NJ LEE Group