Date: June 4, 2025

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

Route To: Business Administrators

From: Robert Gregory, Executive Director
Division of Field Support and Services

Deadline: July 31, 2025

Guidance for Chapter 27 Emergency Virtual or Remote Instruction Programs

In April 2020, Governor Murphy signed A-3904 into law (P.L.2020, c.27, or "Chapter 27"), which, in part, requires each school district, charter school, renaissance school project, and Approved Private School for Students with Disabilities (APSSD), hereinafter referred to as Local Educational Agencies (LEAs), to submit a proposed program for emergency virtual or remote instruction (Plan) by July 31 annually to the New Jersey Department of Education (NJDOE). In July 2022, the NJDOE readopted N.J.A.C. 6A:32, School District Operations, with amendments and new rules that include updates to the components of the LEA's Plan. This law provides for the continuity of instruction in the event of a public health-related district closure, by permitting LEAs to utilize virtual or remote instruction to satisfy the 180-day requirement pursuant to N.J.A.C. 6A:32-13.1 & 13.2. To assist LEAs in the submission of Plans, the NJDOE is issuing "Local Educational Agency Guidance for Chapter 27 Emergency Virtual or Remote Instruction Programs," which includes a checklist to identify components that must be included in the Plan.

By July 31 annually, each Chief School Administrator must submit the LEA's Plan for the next school year, approved by the district board of education or charter or renaissance school project board of trustees, and the completed checklist to the respective County Office of Education. As a reminder, an LEA must also post the Plan prominently on the LEA's website. If you have any questions, please contact your County Office of Education.

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