



STATE OF NEW JERSEY
DEPARTMENT OF EDUCATION

A Memo from the New Jersey Department of Education

Date: January 21, 2026

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

Route To: Building Administrators, Directors of Guidance, Special Education Directors, Child Study Team Members, Teachers, Parents

From: Kathy Ehling, Assistant Commissioner
Division of Educational Services

**Invitation: New Jersey Universal Design for Learning (UDL)
Innovation Network**

The New Jersey Department of Education's Office of Special Education (OSE), in collaboration with CAST, the originator of Universal Design for Learning (UDL), is pleased to invite district and school leaders to an information session on the New Jersey UDL Innovation Network. This new statewide initiative, launching in 2026, aims to strengthen Tier 1 instruction and promote equitable, inclusive teaching practices.

The UDL Innovation Network is a multi-year partnership between OSE and CAST designed to help districts develop proactive, adaptable instructional systems that serve all learners. Selected districts will engage in professional learning, lesson design workshops, instructional rounds, and system-level planning aligned with the UDL framework. This phased approach aims to build district capacity, improve teaching practices, and support sustainable implementation across schools.

Information Session

Date: January 22, 2026

Time: 3:00 PM

Format: Virtual

Audience: Superintendents, assistant superintendents, principals, instructional leaders, and district leadership teams

For additional information about the information session and to register, please review the event details on the [Homeroom Calendar](#). Please direct questions to OSEinfo@doe.nj.gov.

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