



STATE OF NEW JERSEY DEPARTMENT OF EDUCATION

NJDOE Advisory Committee for Federally Funded Programs (ACFFP)

Friday, January 26, 2024

Questions, Responses, Comments and Resources

Question & Answer

Federal Update

Question: Will those links be emailed to us?

Answer: Yes, see below

Question: Can non-public schools like the Diocese of Trenton receive free COVID test?

Answer: Yes, however you must reach out to the LEA. Your local LEA will include your numbers when ordering COVID Test Kits for their students, parents and Staff.

Grants Management

Question: What is the deadline for the last ARP amendment?

Answer: The deadline date for the amendments has not been finalized yet, but additional information will be forthcoming via a Broadcast.

Question: Are there any grants available to community partners for out-of-school time?

Answer: DOE Office of Grants Management has a list of available grants, (See Below)

Student Support Services

Question: Will this information be shared with McKinney-Vento liaisons in order for them to plan student-based services and when working with the district Title I Administrator?

Answer: Yes, this will be shared with all regional and DHLs.

Question: These (Homeless) numbers are based on reported cases, correct?

Answer: Cases identified by LEAs.

Open Discussion

The information below was added to the Jam Board by Ms. Sara Shaw

Question !: What are some of the biggest practice and policy challenges to schools looking to plan for, deliver, and find a wide range of services for students experiencing homelessness?

Responses:

- Bickram Singh, "Providing funds to parents without accountability requirements."

- Vincent DeLuca, “Parent Academies to share the information with all parents and community members. “
- Phyllis Lewis, “When students com to Detention Center we find out they are Homeless, and the school district do not know.”
- Vincent DeLucia, “Collaborating with local municipalities, social services, local faith groups.”
- Diahann DeRuggiero, “Unaccompanied Youth who are ESL eligible do not always advise the McKinny-Vento school liaison of needing assistance. This happens often.

Question 2: How could braided funding support collaboration between agencies while ensuring the availability of support for students experiencing homelessness?

- This question was not addressed by the participants, therefore no comments added.

Assessments

Question: NJGPA Spring Assessments are current seniors (included in the 2024 Cohort) who failed to sit for the Spring 2022 or the Fall 2022. Are these students able to sit for the Spring 2024 administration and if necessary, submit a portfolio appeal?

Answer: NJGPA Spring Assessment: Are current seniors (included in the 2024 Cohort) who failed to sit for the Spring 2022 or the Fall 2022. A student must participate and attempt the NJGPA in order to unlock use of the second or third pathway to graduation. So, yes, a student who is intending to graduate this school year mut have participated in the NJGPA.

Question: Can Pearson provide a practice score?

Answer: **The program is not set up to accommodate for this currently. This is something we can look into for future year for the assessments.**

General Comments

“Happy New Year to all. Let’s continue to pursue the best for all children!”

Links and Resources

Federal Update

Congressional Budget Deal:

<http://www.nytimes.com/2024/01/07/us/congress-spending-deal-shutdown.html>

Short-Term Continuing Resolution Bill:

<https://www.washingtonpost.com/business/2024/01/18/government-shutdown-bill-senate-house/>

Time is Short:

<https://www.nytimes.com/2024/01/07/us/congress-spending-deal-shutdown.html>

FAFSA Changes Overview:

<https://financialaidtoolkit.ed.gov/resources/fafsa-changes-overview.pdf>

Better FAFSA Better Future:

<https://fsapartners.ed.gov/knowledge-center/topics/fafsa-simplification-information/2024-25-fafsa-updates>

Better FAFSA Better Future Webinar Series, January-February 2024:

<https://fsapartners.ed.gov/knowledge-center/library/dear-colleague-letters/2024-01-05/live-internet-webinars-better-fafsa-better-future-webinar-series-january-february-2024>

Resources to Help Programs Sustain Afterschool and Summer Programs After ESSER Funding Deadlines:

<https://www.afterschoolalliance.org/>

Link to the New Mental Health Guide:

<https://www.cdc.gov/healthyyouth/mental-health-action-guide/index.html>

New Jersey Comprehensive School Based Mental Health Resource Guide:

https://www.nj.gov/education/safety/wellness/mh/docs/NJDOE_MentalHealthGuide.pdf

CDC Works 24/7 Saving Lives and Protecting People:

<https://www.cdc.gov/>

Link to Order Free COVID-19 Test for School Districts:

<https://www.ed.gov/coronavirus/testing-supply-program-dcl>

Note: Remember LEAs must reach out to non-publics to assess their needs and accommodate.

Grants Management

Spending American Rescue Plan (ARP) ESSER Funds to Support Students by Fall 2024:

<https://www.nj.gov/education/esser/reviewamendspend/>

Maximizing Federal Funds Description:

<https://www.nj.gov/education/federal/funding/>

Link to Broadcast Outlining Requirements to Reserve 20% of Funds to Address Learning Loss:

<https://www.nj.gov/education/broadcasts/2023/mar/29/RegardingtheARPESSERRequirementtoReserve20PercenttoAddressLearningLoss.pdf>

Grant Opportunities:

<https://www.nj.gov/education/grants/opportunities/index.shtml>

Note: Generally, LEAs could be using certain ARP ESSER grants to bring in community partners.

ESSA State Plan

Broadcast on the ARP ESSER State Plan Amendments:

<https://www.nj.gov/education/broadcasts/2024/jan/10/UnitedStatesDepartmentofEducationApprovesNew%20JerseysAmendmentstotheAmericanRescuePlanElementaryandSecondarySchoolsEmergencyReliefBirwL====StatePlan.pdf>

Broadcast on ESSER Performance Report Performance Report Submission Deadlines

<https://www.nj.gov/education/broadcasts/2024/jan/24/StateFiscalYear2023SFY2023ESSERPerformanceReport.pdf>

Winter Institute:

<https://www.nj.gov/education/specialed/winterinstitute.shtml>

Student Support Services

Statewide Network for Family Success Centers

<https://www.nj.gov/dcf/families/support/success/>

Homeless Presentation Jam Board

https://jamboard.google.com/d/1etY5SLRg0XvxVauko1x6Bp24AELMmrNAIDCBOiiiN_4/viewer?f=0

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