

## Christie Administration Announces \$2.7 Million in Grants to Increase Access to Academic Instruction and Treatment for Students in Recovery

## For Immediate Release

Contact: David Saenz

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609-292-1126

**TRENTON, NJ** – The Christie Administration today announced the availability of \$2.7 million to expand access to recovery high schools in New Jersey for students battling addiction, moving another of the initiatives Governor Chris Christie announced two weeks ago in his \$200 million anti-opioid campaign to create or enhance opportunities for addiction prevention, treatment, and recovery.

The Recovery High School Access Project will enable high school students in recovery to attend existing recovery high schools. A second program, the Recovery High School Planning Project, will fund a school district in the southern part of the state to work with a substance abuse treatment center and establish a new recovery high school program for students in the southern counties. Recovery high schools facilitate a smooth transition from treatment to innovative, safe, and supportive academic environments where the goal is to prevent relapse and prepare students to graduate and achieve success after high school.

## **Recovery High School Access Project**

Up to two existing New Jersey public recovery high schools are eligible to receive a maximum of \$1.3 million each to increase the number of students able to attend the programs. Allowable costs for each program will include tuition and transportation costs for up to 30 students and one full-time transition/re-entry counselor with expertise in addiction treatment. Students, ages 14-21, who have been diagnosed with a substance abuse or dependency disorder, and who are seeking a sober lifestyle, will be eligible for the program. The project will extend from the end of this month through June 2018. Each program will be required to serve students from surrounding districts and counties. Recovery high schools interested in applying for these funds must complete the application and submit to the NIDOE by October 20, 2017.

## **Recovery High School Planning Project**

A maximum of \$100,000 will be awarded to one public school district in the southern region of the state to partner with a substance abuse treatment center and develop a plan for a new recovery high school program accessible to high school students in recovery in the southern counties. Public school districts located in the following counties, serving high school-age students, may be eligible to apply for funding: Atlantic, Burlington, Cape May, Camden, Cumberland, Gloucester, Ocean, and Salem. The project period will extend from December 1, 2017 through June 30, 2018 with an expectation for implementation of the new program during the 2018-2019 school year. Each applicant must commit to accepting students from surrounding communities and counties in the plan. Districts interested in applying for the planning project must complete the application and submit it to the NIDOE by November 10, 2017.