



School-Level Professional Development Planning Requirements

N.J.A.C. 6A: 9-15.5

As of July 1, 2013, New Jersey [professional development regulations](#) have been revised to reflect the recommendations of the Governor’s 2012 Education Transformation Task Force Report and the requirements of the TEACHNJ Act. These requirements apply to all district boards of education, charter schools, and nonpublic schools who choose to follow state requirements and whose staff members hold positions that require the possession of instructional, education services and administrator certificates.

Most of the school-level planning requirements remain the same; however, the new regulations:

- Eliminate the requirement for a School Professional Development Committee (SPDC); and
- Assign primary responsibility for PD planning to the school principal, who has flexibility to organize the planning process but should at minimum consult with the School Improvement Panel (ScIP).
 - A key role of the ScIP is to identify PD opportunities and review school-level educator and student performance data in support of school-level PD planning (N.J.A.C. 6A:10-3.2).
 - The principal must ensure all teachers receive the necessary opportunities and resources to complete their PD requirements; the school plan is one vehicle for organizing teacher support.

Although an initial plan should be completed annually on a timely basis to inform the district-level planning process, the school PD plan should be seen as a living document and can be revised whenever educator practice and/or student achievement data indicate the need.

Comparison of Previous and New Requirements

School PD Planning Element	Previous Requirements	New Requirements (as of July 1, 2013)
Developed by	SPDC	Principal in consultation with ScIP
Duration	One year	Same
Contents	Description of school-level and team-based learning activities based on identified school goals and student and teacher needs	Same
Aligned to	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • NJ Professional Standards for Teachers • NJ Professional Development Standards 	Same
Relation to District Plans	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Shared with central office • Informs district PD plan 	Same

Please see the [Professional Development Website](#) for more information on PD plans and requirements.