



STATE OF NEW JERSEY
DEPARTMENT OF EDUCATION

A Memo from the New Jersey Department of Education

December 5, 2017

To: Chief School Administrators, Charter School and Renaissance School Project Leads
Route To: Curriculum and Instruction Personnel, Directors of Special Education, Bilingual Supervisors
From: Peggy McDonald, Acting Assistant Commissioner
Division of Learning Supports and Specialized Services
Deadline: January 12, 2018

Applications Being Accepted for New Jersey Tiered System of Supports–Early Reading (NJTSS-ER) Professional Development Grants

New Jersey school districts, charter schools and renaissance school projects are eligible to apply by January 12, 2018 to participate in the second cohort of the New Jersey Tiered System of Supports for Early Reading (NJTSS-ER) grant project. The goal of the grant project is to build capacity for school personnel by providing intensive coaching to improve reading achievement for students with disabilities through an integrated continuum of supports and interventions designed to meet the needs of *all* students.

Project Details

The NJTSS-ER grant, a partnership between the New Jersey Department of Education (NJDOE) and Rutgers University, will engage district literacy coaches in a coach-the-coach model to enhance the effectiveness of reading interventions available to *all* students. Applicants selected to participate in the grant will receive assistance with reviewing their current intervention systems and procedures, as well as assistance aligning them with the NJTSS. Coaching will be provided to literacy coaches, serving students in Kindergarten through grade 3, who will work in two schools within the district. Building principals will receive training from the New Jersey Principals and Supervisors Association on the role of the principal in NJTSS. Support for enhancing family and community engagement will also be provided by the Statewide Parent Advocacy Group. Reimbursements of up to \$2,000 per school are provided for allowable costs. The second cohort grant project is not available to districts that have already been awarded a grant in Year 1.

Application Process

More information about criteria can be found on the online [application form](#). The application form outlines the requirements for interested applicants. Please email the complete application to Dr. Saskia Brown, NJTSS-ER Project Manager, at saskia.brown@doe.state.nj.us by **January 12, 2018**. Applicants will be notified of the approvals once the NJDOE has had the opportunity to review all submissions.

To learn more about the grant opportunity, school officials are invited to take part in a question-and-answer phone conference on Thursday, December 14, 2017, from 2 to 3 p.m. The conference access number is (712) 432-1500 and the code is 592808#.

Please contact Dr. Peggy McDonald, NJDOE Acting Assistant Commissioner, at (609) 376-3716 with questions about the grant. We thank you for considering this opportunity.

c: Members, State Board of Education
Kimberley Harrington, Commissioner
NJDOE Staff
Linda Reddy

Todd Glover
Statewide Parent Advocacy Network
Garden State Coalition of Schools
NJ LEE Group