

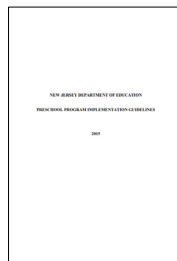
VIDEO 17: Professional Development



New Jersey Preschool Expansion Webinar Series: Professional Development



In this video, we'll discuss the Professional Development section of the New Jersey Department of Education's Preschool Education Aid application for districts applying to be part of New Jersey's state-funded preschool program. Note that Professional Development is often addressed in a larger section of the application called Program Evaluation and Professional Development, so you'll want to check out our companion video on Program Evaluation when writing this part of your application.



DECS Preschool Website:
<https://www.nj.gov/education/earlychildhood/preschool/>

Ongoing, comprehensive professional development is crucial to maintain high quality in the Expansion program. To successfully complete this section of the application, you'll need to familiarize yourself with the Preschool Program Implementation Guidelines, which contains a section on Professional Development.



Category	Topics for New Staff	Topics for Experienced Staff
All Preschool Staff		
Teachers		
Assistant Teachers		
Coaches (PIC/PIRS)		
LEA Administration		
Child Care Directors/Head Start Administrators		
CPIS		
Family Workers		
Social Workers		
Nurse		
Bus Drivers/ Security/ etc.		

Each district is required to develop a comprehensive, systematic, professional development (PD) plan. On this slide is an example of how you may be asked to explain plans for PD in your application. Your plan needs to include all preschool-funded staff, including teachers, assistant teachers, administrators, nurses, security guards, bus drivers, et cetera. Anyone who will encounter your preschoolers should be included in this plan. And it must be district-wide and include all in-district and contracted private provider personnel.

You must also include a wide variety of topics, including support for multilingual learners, inclusion of preschoolers with disabilities, preschool language and literacy, classroom management, supporting the cultural and linguistic backgrounds of all students and families, developmentally appropriate practices, and curriculum-specific professional development, among others. The topics should be specific to the needs of your district & differentiated for different preschool staff.



Professional Development (PD)

4. Will the LEA use your Title 1 needs assessment to identify PD topics for preschool educators?

Yes	<input type="checkbox"/>
No	<input type="checkbox"/>

5. Describe in detail the PD plan for the current school year. Include evidence that the PD plan is systematic and comprehensive.

6. What data sources will the LEA use to inform the PD plan?

7. What training will be provided for all staff to be aware of the various languages, culture, and ethnic backgrounds of the families served?

8. How will the LEA provide PD on using structured observation tools for coaches?

Your professional development plan should also include using the structured observation tools selected by the district. These tools include the Early Childhood Environment Rating Scale – third edition (or ECERS-3), the Teaching Pyramid Observation Tool (or TPOT), and any curriculum fidelity tools. This slide illustrates the

kinds of questions you may need to address in your application about how structured observation tools will be used and supported.



You've reached the end of Professional Development

Video Library:

<https://nieer.org/new-jersey-preschool-expansion-webinar-series>

This brings our video on how to address Professional Development in your PEA application to a close. Again, the PEA application will likely require you to address Professional Development in a broader section on Program Evaluation and Professional Development, so be sure to check out our companion video on Program Evaluation as well. Also, for information on the other sections of the PEA application, see our library of other videos on a variety of useful topics.