

VIDEO 6: Facility Requirements



In this video, we'll discuss the Facilities section of the New Jersey Department of Education's application for Preschool Education Aid. Please take note that the PEA application often includes facilities in a section where districts are also asked to address Outreach, Recruitment and Enrollment. We have a separate video on Outreach, Recruitment and Enrollment that you'll want to watch to get a complete picture of how to address that section of the PEA application.



NJAC 6A:26 Educational Facilities Table of Contents	Chapter 13A, Elements of High-Quality Preschool Programs Table of Contents
Subchapter 1. General Provisions 6A:26-1.1 Purpose and applicability of code 6A:26-1.2 Definitions	Subchapter 1. General Provisions 6A:13A-1.1 Purpose and applicability of code 6A:13A-1.2 Definitions
Subchapter 2. Local Board Facilities Plan 6A:26-2.1 Development of local facilities plan 6A:26-2.2 Composition of a prescriptive facilities plan 6A:26-2.3 Review and approval of prescriptive facilities plan 6A:26-2.4 Enforcement	Subchapter 2. Eligibility, Enrollment, and the Nature of Preschool Studies 6A:13A-2.1 Eligibility 6A:13A-2.2 Enrollment 6A:13A-2.3 Nature of public facilities
Subchapter 3. Capital Project Review 6A:26-3.1 Submission of applications 6A:26-3.2 School facilities review 6A:26-3.3 Review and approval of school facilities projects 6A:26-3.4 Allocation of facilities review funds to school facilities projects 6A:26-3.5 Development of local facilities plan by Department of Education school facilities review 6A:26-3.6 Development of local facilities plan by local board 6A:26-3.7 Use of grant of local board prescriptive 6A:26-3.8 Development of local plan for school facilities projects 6A:26-3.9 Review and submission of local facilities review plan to Department of Education 6A:26-3.10 Review and approval of local facilities review plan 6A:26-3.11 Allocation of grant funds 6A:26-3.12 Review, approval and use of Department facilities 6A:26-3.13 Enforcement and penalties 6A:26-3.14 Enforcement, review, appeals, fines, penalties, other prescriptive review of funds, and material review	Subchapter 3. Program Planning 6A:13A-3.1 Program planning
Subchapter 4. Measurement of Capital Projects 6A:26-4.1 General provisions 6A:26-4.2 Use of grant program funds to support capital projects 6A:26-4.3 Use of grant program funds to support capital projects 6A:26-4.4 Enforcement	Subchapter 4. Program Planning 6A:13A-4.1 Assessment and planning 6A:13A-4.2 Assessment and reporting activities 6A:13A-4.3 Health and safety plan 6A:13A-4.4 Family and community involvement 6A:13A-4.5 Review board of children's development, accessibility and integrity of preschool program
	Subchapter 5. Curriculum and Learning 6A:13A-5.1 Curriculum 6A:13A-5.2 Program and performance based assessment of children 6A:13A-5.3 Assessment 6A:13A-5.4 Assessment quality assurance 6A:13A-5.5 Transition

NJDOE Administrative Code Website:
<https://www.nj.gov/education/code/current/index.shtml>

Note that this video is a summary of the requirements you'll typically need to address in your PEA application, but to make sure you are fully compliant with NJDOE requirements, you'll need to make yourself familiar with two parts of NJDOE's administrative code:

- First, look at the chapter on Educational facility planning standards for school facilities housing preschool students which you can find in administrative code chapter 6A:26-6.4
- Second, read through the facilities requirements that are detailed in the preschool chapter of administrative code, which is 6A:13A Elements of High-Quality Preschool Programs.

Each classroom, whether it's located in the school district, Head Start, or private child care center, is required to meet current Department of Education facilities requirements.

Facilities Chart

Site Type (School, Private Provider and/or Head Start) Include the name of provider, Head Start or LEA building.	Class Number (i.e., Classroom #1)	Class Size (i.e., total sq. footage of usable space inclusive of closets, shelving, and bathroom if applicable)	Proposed Classroom Enrollment	Bathroom in Classroom Y/N	Bathroom in Line of Sight (if not in the classroom) In line of sight means that the bathroom is directly visible from the classroom. Y/N/NA	Floor Level

On this screen, you'll see the kinds of facility-specific information the NJDOE typically requires you to provide in your application for Preschool Education Aid. Note that you'll need to provide this information for each classroom the district proposes to use for state-funded preschool, as well as any classrooms in Head Start and child care center locations the district will collaborate with to serve state-funded preschoolers. Two other things that are important to note are that 1. In addition to the information in this chart, the application requires districts to submit a floor plan with square footage for each proposed classroom; and 2. You are not permitted to use TCUs, or temporary classroom units, to serve state-funded preschoolers.

Effective November 17, 2025, all classrooms must provide at least 42 square feet of usable space per child. This usable space does not include a bathroom, immovable furniture, or closets and/or storage space.

Bathrooms must be located within the classroom, in addition to the 42 square feet per child, or they can be located outside the classroom on the same floor as the classroom space. If the bathroom is located outside of the classroom, it should be designated for use by only preschool and kindergarten students, and all children must be under direct supervision when they utilize the bathroom.



You've reached the end of Facilities Requirements

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

This brings our video on the Facilities section of the Preschool Education Aid Application to a close. Again, this section of the application might require you to address Outreach, Recruitment & Enrollment as well, so be sure to check out our companion video on that

section. Also, for information on the remaining sections of the PEA application, see our library of other videos on a variety of useful topics.