



STATE OF NEW JERSEY

# DEPARTMENT OF EDUCATION

A Memo from the New Jersey Department of Education

Date: February 28, 2020

To: Chief School Administrators, Charter School and Renaissance School Project Leads, Administrators of Approved Private Schools for Students with Disabilities, Nonpublic School Administrators, Approved Clinics and Agencies, Administrative Law Judges

Route To: Directors of Special Education

From: Peggy McDonald, Ed.D., Assistant Commissioner  
Division of Student Services

## Extended Public Comment and Feedback Period for Proposed Special Education Due Process Hearing Guidelines

On January 17, 2020, the New Jersey Department of Education (NJDOE) publicized Proposed Due Process Hearing Guidelines designed to ensure the resolution of special education due process hearings within the timeframes set forth in the federal *Individuals with Disabilities Education Act (IDEA)*, and invited public comment and feedback on the Proposed Guidelines prior to the original effective date of March 2, 2020. The DOE has decided to extend the public comment and feedback period to May 1, 2020. Extending the public comment and feedback period will enable consideration of additional comments, concerns, and feedback concerning the proposed Guidelines from parents, school districts, stakeholders, and members of the public.

**Consequently, the proposed Due Process Hearings Guidelines will not be implemented on March 2, 2020.**

The proposed Guidelines are available for review on the NJDOE [Special Education Dispute Resolution](#) webpage and the [OAL website](#). The NJDOE and the OAL invite and encourage supportive or similar comments, concerns, and general feedback on the proposed Guidelines. Comments, concerns, and general feedback on the Proposed Guidelines is encouraged and may be submitted by email to [dueprocessfeedback@doe.nj.gov](mailto:dueprocessfeedback@doe.nj.gov).

c: Members, State Board of Education  
Lamont O. Repollet, Ed.D., Commissioner  
NJDOE Staff  
The Honorable Ellen S. Bass  
The Honorable Barry E. Moscovitz  
Statewide Parent Advocacy Network  
NJ LEE Group