FREE GUIDE

# New Jersey special education deadlines

Sources last checked between Nov 16, 2026 and Nov 20, 2026
State rules as of November 20, 2026

| RULE | FIRST LINE OF THE RULE | SOURCE |
|---|---|---|
| **EVALUATIONS** | | |
| **Responding to an evaluation request** | Within twenty calendar days after receiving your written evaluation request, the school must meet with you to decide whether an evaluation is needed; school holidays do not count, but summer vacation does. | N.J. Admin. Code § 6A:14-3.3(d)(1), (e) |
| **Completing an initial evaluation** | In New Jersey, a 90-calendar-day period starts when the school receives your written consent. | N.J.A.C. 6A:14-3.4(e) |
| **FIRST IEP MEETING** | | |
| **The initial IEP after eligibility** | Once the team decides your child needs special education and related services, a meeting to write your child's first IEP must be held within 30 calendar days. | 34 CFR 300.323(c)(1) |
| **SCHOOL RECORDS** | | |
| **Timing of access to education records** | In New Jersey, the school must let you see your child's education records within 10 calendar days after you ask. | N.J.A.C. 6A:32-7.1(g)(1); N.J.A.C. 6A:14-2.9(b) |
| **Copies of records, fees and access barriers** | New Jersey: copy charges must not prevent parents or adult students from exercising their records rights. | N.J.A.C. 6A:32-7.5(b); 34 CFR 300.617 |
| **IEP REVIEWS AND REEVALUATIONS** | | |
| **Regular IDEA reevaluation** | Your child must be reevaluated at least once every three years, unless you and the school agree it isn't needed. | 34 CFR 300.303(a), (b) |
| **Reviewing the IEP at least annually** | Your child's IEP team must review the IEP periodically, and at least once a year, to see whether the annual goals are being met. | 34 CFR 300.324(b)(1)(i) |
| **TRANSITION PLANNING** | | |
| **The earlier age-14 transition step** | In New Jersey, transition planning starts with the IEP for the school year when your child turns 14. | N.J.A.C. 6A:14-3.7(e)11; N.J.S.A. 18A:36-1 |
| **When transition goals and services begin** | In New Jersey, the IEP for the school year when your child turns 14 must include their strengths, interests and preferences, and a course of study, updated every year. | N.J.A.C. 6A:14-3.7(e)11; N.J.A.C. 6A:14-3.7(e)12; N.J.S.A. 18A:36-1 |
| **RIGHTS AT ADULTHOOD** | | |
| **Advance notice about the transfer of IDEA rights** | In New Jersey, the IEP must say that both you and your child were told about the rights that will transfer at 18. | N.J.A.C. 6A:14-3.7(e)14; 6A:14-2.3(m) |
| **The state's age of majority and IDEA rights** | In New Jersey, special education rights under IDEA transfer from you to your child at age 18. | N.J.A.C. 6A:14-2.3(m)(1)–(4) |
| **PRESCHOOL AND EARLY INTERVENTION** | | |
| **Preschool special education by age three** | For a child moving from early intervention (Part C) to preschool special education, an IEP, or an IFSP where that is allowed, must be developed and in place by the third birthday. | 34 CFR 300.124(b); 300.101(b); 300.102(a)(1), (4) |
| **Moving from early intervention to preschool** | Transition information must begin at least a year before the third birthday, or at the first early intervention plan for children who become eligible at ages 24 through 35 months. | N.J. Admin. Code § 8:17-11.1(b)(1), (3), (d) |
| **OTHER RULES** | | |
| **Section 504 protections in school discipline** | New Jersey: Section 504 requires an evaluation before discipline that significantly changes the student's placement. | 34 CFR 104.35(a); 29 U.S.C. § 705(20)(C)(iv) |
| **The school's response to an IEE request** | The school must provide an independent evaluation at no cost to you without undue delay, or request a hearing to defend its evaluation within 20 calendar days after receiving your request. | N.J. Admin. Code § 6A:14-2.5(c)(1) |
| **Give written notice before moving to a private school** | If you plan to move your child to a private school and ask the district to pay, give the district written notice at least 10 business days before your child leaves the public school. | 34 CFR 300.148(d)–(e); 300.11(b) |
| **IEP services after a move within the state** | New Jersey: Comparable services begin without delay after enrollment. | N.J.A.C. 6A:14-4.1(g)1 |
| **IEP services after a move from another state** | New Jersey: Comparable services begin without delay after enrollment. | N.J.A.C. 6A:14-4.1(g)2 |

**Planning aid only. Not legal advice. Confirm the date with the governing source.**

Full answers and source links: https://endeavy.com/special-education-deadlines/new-jersey