



NEW JERSEY

State Profile

Academic Pathways	Present in the State		Special Efforts to Reach Underserved Students		State Support	
Advanced Placement (AP)	Yes	Students from 44 high-need districts given new opportunities to take college-level courses and tests with aid from the AP Incentive Program for planning and teacher training.	Yes	No details known or available	Yes	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> NJAC 6A:8-5.1 allows schools to use AP classes and college work for high school graduate credit Federal grant to support testing fees (AP Incentive Program)
Bridge Programs	Yes	Summer bridge programs for incoming freshmen. Educational opportunity programs	Yes	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Racial and ethnic minority students Urban students 	Yes	Federal funding
<u>Career Academies</u>	Yes	Planning stages several new Career Academies for the 2003-04 school year; State continues to expand the program	Yes	Non-traditional students who are career oriented	Yes	State funding
<u>Charter Schools</u>	Yes	51 charter schools in the state	Yes	Many are located in urban communities	Yes	State funding; NJAC 6A: 11
College Level Exam Program (CLEP)	Yes	No details known or available	No		No	
Distance Learning/ Virtual School	Yes	Primarily through community colleges	Yes	Low-income students	No	
Dual Credit/ Dual Enrollment	Yes	Through 12 th -grade pilot program, it has been increasing; Option Two allows for dual enrollment www.nj.gov/njded/aps/info/option2.htm	No		Yes	NJAC 6A:8-5.1(a)1ii Graduation requirements; local district funds used for programs
Early or Middle College High Schools	No		No		No	
<u>GEAR UP</u>	Yes	The program stems from the College Bound Program to outreach disadvantaged students to help them prepare for college at as early as 7th grade. A clear academic component to extend from high school to college.	Yes	Low-income students	Yes	Federal and state funding

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GED in College Settings	Yes	Partnership with community colleges has been increasing	Yes	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Low-income students • Racial and ethnic minority students 	Yes	State funding
<u>High Schools That Work</u>	Yes	A school-wide improvement framework dedicated to providing a quality education	Yes	Students in high need of resources	Yes	State funding
International Baccalaureate (IB)	Yes	10 high schools participating. Example: Hoboken High School	No		No	Local district implementation and funding
Senior or 12th Grade Option	Yes	Pilot in 2003-2004 academic year; College option is most popular. It has a special option to explore education, career apprenticeship.	Yes	School districts that need equitable resources	No	
<u>Tech Prep</u>	Yes	Improves occupational training opportunities at the secondary and postsecondary levels and provides a better-prepared workforce that meets industry and educational standards.	Yes	No details known or available	Yes	Federal Perkins funds

Summary of academic pathways:

The state does not emphasize one particular academic pathway over another; however, it has seen growth in dual credit/dual enrollment as a way of bridging a curriculum of high school and college. Through the dual credit/dual enrollment and Senior Option program, high school seniors can be ready to do college level work and earn some college credit. There has been a growing effort to connect secondary education to postsecondary education through partnerships with community colleges.

State’s effort to encourage college prep curriculum:

New Jersey is looking at how well it prepares students for college in terms of what its curriculum looks like and what programs are taught.

Interesting or unique models identified by state officials:

Senior Option program: This initiative was implemented in the 2003-2004 academic year. Although no state funding is yet allocated, this program seems to offer a promising future to students who aspire to go to college. 48 schools have volunteered to participate.



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Observations by state officials about special efforts to reach underserved students:

New Jersey has consistently made special efforts to reach underserved students through many academic pathways, but does not use the CLEP program. Students being served by these pathways include racial or ethnic minority, low-income, and urban students.

Observations by state officials about state support for pathways:

New Jersey has consistently supported its pathways except its most recent initiative—the Senior Option that was piloted in 2003. Funding for this program seems likely but depends on its success and school participation.

Lessons learned by state officials:

- No one pathway works for everyone. Organizational structure and more effort can establish the academic requirements, practices, and articulation among these pathways.
- The state needs to provide an opportunity for 7th or 8th graders to think about what they are going to do and what they need to do to achieve academic standards in their future.
- There are many solutions to increasing college access and awareness. Discussion among constituencies needs to be facilitated. The state needs to have better data-driven results to be shared with stakeholders.
- There are needs for training, school improvement, and professional development.

Programs recommended by state officials:

<u>Pathways</u>	<u>Educational Institution</u>	<u>Contact person</u>	<u>E-mail</u>	<u>Phone</u>
12 th Grade Option	Regional Office	Judis Weiss	--	(973) 655-2100
12 th Grade Option	Central Office	Michael Rush	--	(609) 984-6755
12 th Grade Option	Southern Office	Albert Monilets	--	(857) 468-5533

State official's contact information:

<u>Name</u>	<u>Title</u>	<u>Agency</u>	<u>E-mail</u>	<u>Phone</u>
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(Prepared by Eunyoung Kim/ Updated February, 2006/ *State official reviewed this state profile.)