



State of New Jersey

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TO: Chief School Administrators  
Charter School Lead Persons

FROM: Jim Palmer  
Director, Office of Project Management

SUBJECT: Register Ready - Special Needs Registry for Disasters

The New Jersey Department of Education (NJDOE) is partnering with the New Jersey Office of Emergency Management (NJOEM) to improve the state's ability to respond to residents with disabilities or those with functional needs when a disaster such as Hurricane Sandy occurs. The "**Register Ready**" **Special Needs Registry for Disasters** is an online registry in which citizens can provide emergency response agencies with important information (e.g., if a resident is wheelchair bound or requires medical apparatus) so that emergency responders can be better prepared to serve those individuals during a natural disaster or other emergency.

Register Ready is a confidential database that can only be accessed by designated local, county and state emergency managers.

In support of NJOEM's efforts toward disaster preparedness, the NJDOE is encouraging schools to circulate information about the registry to parents and guardians of students. The NJOEM [Register Ready webpage](#) contains links to brochures about the registry program in English and Spanish, which schools can download to share with students and their families. Citizens should go to the [Register Ready registration](#) webpage to sign up for the program.

The NJOEM encourages New Jersey residents with disabilities or access and functional needs to sign up with Register Ready well before disaster strikes.

c: Members, State Board of Education  
Senior Staff  
Executive County Superintendents  
Executive Directors for Regional Achievement Centers  
Executive County School Business Administrators  
NJ LEE Group  
Garden State Coalition of Schools