



NJEXCEL
New Jersey
EXpedited
Certification for
Educational
Leadership



NJPSAFEA
NJEXCEL

(609) 860-1200
www.njexcel.org



NJEXCEL - An Overview

The **New Jersey Expedited Certification for Educational Leadership (NJEXCEL)** Program is offered by NJPSA's Foundation for Educational Administration (FEA). NJEXCEL is the state-approved, innovative, non-traditional certification program with distinct New Jersey certification as Principal (CE), Supervisor, Director of School Counseling Services*, Teacher-Leader**, or School Administrator (CE).



Eligibility for admission includes a minimum of a master's degree in a related educational field and four years of full-time experience as a teacher and/or educational specialist. NJEXCEL is designed for practicing NJ educators who aspire to earn NJ school leader certifications through NJEXCEL, in lieu of pursuing a second master's degree.

NJEXCEL's program is guided by the research related to adult learning strategies, standards for school leader preparation programs, and current national and state school leader performance standards.

*Eligibility for Director of School Counseling Services Certification with three years' experience as a certified Guidance Counselor (enrolled in Models 1, 2, or 3 only).

** NJEXCEL candidates who meet NJDOE eligibility requirements may also be eligible to earn teacher leader certification. In addition, teachers who do not qualify for NJEXCEL can obtain teacher leader certification through FEA's 10-month teacher leader program. Visit www.njtlc.org for details.

Which Model Is Right for You?

	Model 1	Model 2	Model 3
Candidate's Experience	Practicing supervisors with 4+ years of full-time supervisory experience	Practicing teachers and educational specialists with supervisor certification and 4+ years of full-time educational service OR practicing supervisors with less than 4 years of supervisory experience	Practicing teachers and educational specialists with 4+ years of full-time educational service
Outcome	Principal Certification (CE) Teacher Leader Certification	Principal Certification (CE) Teacher Leader Certification	Principal Certification (CE) and Supervisor Certification (Standard) Teacher Leader Certification
Time Frame	One Year	One Year	One and a Half Years
Graduate Credit from Thomas Edison State University	Graduate credit available upon program completion	Graduate credit available upon program completion	Graduate credit available upon program completion
Individualized Professional Growth Plan (PGP)	Focuses on learning experiences that support explorations into school leadership practices	Focuses on learning experiences that support explorations into school leadership practices	Focuses on learning experiences that support explorations into school leadership practices
Field-Based Experience: Internships and Projects	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • School-based Internship • School-based Project • Job-embedded Project • Action Research Project 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • School-based Internship • School-based Project • Job-embedded Project • Action Research Project • Supervisory Project 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • School-based Internship • School-based Project • Job-embedded Project • Action Research Project • Supervisory Internship • Supervisory Project
Small-group Collaborative Inquiry Sessions	8 sessions, led by an experienced, certified school/district administrator	8 sessions, led by an experienced, certified school/district administrator	11 sessions, led by an experienced, certified school/district administrator
Assessment Licensure Prep Classes	Complimentary School Leaders Licensure Assessment (SLLA) Prep Classes — 5 sessions (\$550 value)	Complimentary School Leaders Licensure Assessment (SLLA) Prep Classes — 5 sessions (\$550 value)	Complimentary School Leaders Licensure Assessment (SLLA) Prep Classes — 5 sessions (\$550 value)
Leadership e-Folio	Development of Leadership e-Folio culminating with an External Portfolio Review (EPR)	Development of Leadership e-Folio culminating with an External Portfolio Review (EPR)	Development of Leadership e-Folio culminating with an External Portfolio Review (EPR)
Marketing Yourself Workshop	Complimentary Marketing Yourself Workshop with Simulated Interviews	Complimentary Marketing Yourself Workshop with Simulated Interviews	Complimentary Marketing Yourself Workshop with Simulated Interviews

The NJEXCEL Experience

Model 4
Educators holding Principal Certification (CE, Provisional, or Standard) OR School Business Administrator Certification with 4+ years of SBA experience
School Administrator Certification (CE)
One Year
Graduate credit available upon program completion
Focuses on learning experiences that support explorations into district leadership practices
<ul style="list-style-type: none">• District-level, Field-based School Administrator Internship Experience• District-based Action Research Project
8 sessions, led by experienced, certified, district superintendent
Complimentary School Superintendent Assessment (SSA) Prep Classes — 5 sessions (\$550 value)
Development of Leadership e-Folio culminating with an External Portfolio Review (EPR)
Complimentary Marketing Yourself Workshop with Simulated Interviews

NJEXCEL's program components (curriculum design and instructional and assessment methodologies) are focused on **six learning strategies**:

- 1. Creation of a diverse professional learning community**
- 2. Self-assessment and self-analysis of knowledge, skills, dispositions, and emotional intelligence competencies for effective instructional and organizational leadership practices**
- 3. Personalized self-directed learning**
- 4. Constructivist methodology and experiential learning**
- 5. Reflective practice**
- 6. Practitioner-driven inquiry**

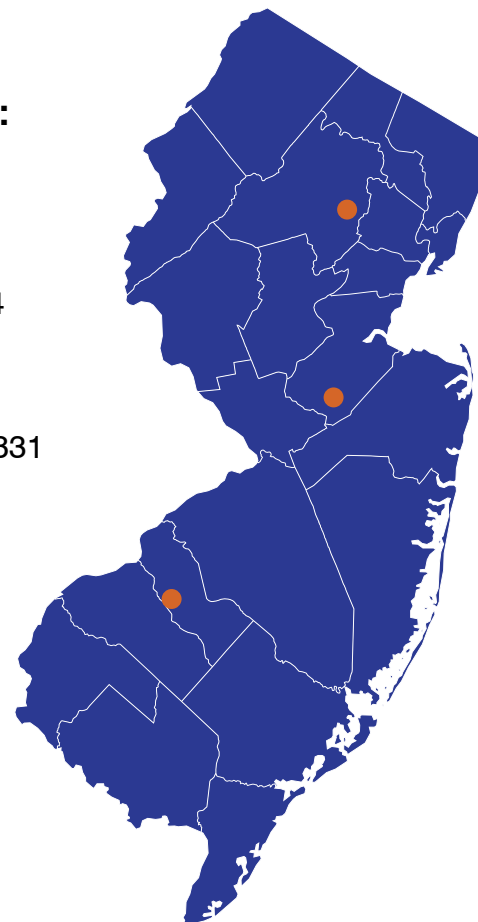
Regional New Jersey Cohorts

Candidates apply for entrance through an easy online application process at www.njexcel.org. Cohorts begin in January and July at one or more of the following locations:

North: Dr. Frank R. Calabria Education Center
Parsippany-Troy Hills Township Schools
292 Parsippany Road, Parsippany, NJ 07054

Central: FEA Conference Center
12 Centre Drive, Monroe Township, NJ 08831

South: Timber Creek Regional High School
Black Horse Pike Regional Schools
501 Jarvis Road, Erial, NJ 08081



Classes, seminars and workshops are held through a combination of remote/online and in-person/on-site learning sessions.

To learn more about the NJEXCEL program, sign up for an information session, or complete an online application, visit

www.njexcel.org

If you have questions, contact:

Angelina Martino Finnegan, Director of School Leadership Programs, at afinnegan@njpsa.org or (609) 860-1200

Dr. Jeffrey Graber, Associate Director, at jgraber@njpsa.org or (609) 860-1200

Attention District Leaders: We can help you build a leadership pipeline!

If an administrative position suddenly opened in your district, do you have qualified aspiring leaders on staff who are prepared to take on the challenge?

NJEXCEL is the key to building your district's leadership pipeline.

Help Your Team. Help Your Schools. Help Yourself.

- Identify the best, brightest, most energetic and ambitious future leaders in your school or district and **encourage them to apply to NJEXCEL.**
- **Share this brochure** with them and highlight the many advantages of becoming certified through NJEXCEL in lieu of pursuing a second master's degree.
- **Build a strong leadership pipeline** as a crucial element to developing and sustaining excellence in schools.
- Increase leadership capacity by **improving communication** and make professional learning communities operate more effectively.
- **Improve and enhance your school or district with an NJEXCEL candidate's project.** In fact, 80 percent of projects completed by NJEXCEL candidates as part of the program continue to be implemented in districts today.
- Support your team's goals and ambitions through **visionary leadership and succession planning.**
- Remember **teacher leader certification** is also available through NJEXCEL.

"The NJEXCEL program continues to fully prepare its alumni to lead and to serve New Jersey's students, educators and communities. As a superintendent, I was fortunate to have five outstanding NJEXCEL alumni on our administrative team. They brought the very best leadership qualities to their purpose driven work each day."

- Judith Wilson
Superintendent (Ret.) Princeton

NJEXCEL Alumni — Prepared for Success

“The structure of NJEXCEL allowed me to fully explore the requirements, the law, and the everyday hands-on experiences of life as a principal in a fashion that was immersive, interactive, and collaborative.”

- Dawn Kaszuba
Principal
Ocean Township High School
NJEXCEL Model 1 Alumna

“I was prepared not only to successfully interview, but to secure a principalship within months of completing the program.”

- Dineen Gruchacz
Principal
Community Park Elementary School, Princeton
NJEXCEL Model 2 Alumna

“I believe NJEXCEL, through its use of practicing administrators as teachers, provides real-time insights that no other program can accomplish.”

- Joseph G. Majka, J.D.
Director of Personnel
Matawan-Aberdeen
NJEXCEL Model 3 Alumnus



“NJEXCEL helped me develop and express my professional voice in order to be an influential leader within my school district, and provided me with a path to hone the skills I needed for my current position as Assistant Superintendent of Curriculum, Instruction and Technology.”

- Joan V. Mast, Ed.D.
Superintendent
Scotch Plains-Fanwood
NJEXCEL Model 1 and Model 4 Alumna

The NJEXCEL Advantage

- **Fast-track, non-traditional route** to school and district administrator certifications and teacher leader certification
- **Research-based**, standards-driven, practitioner-focused spiraling curriculum
- **Distinguished faculty of expert practitioners** who are in the field with you, providing real experience and career assistance
- **Authentic and relevant experiential learning**, with more than 80 percent of school-based projects completed by NJEXCEL candidates remaining in place today
- **Competency-based technology skills** development courses and online modules
- **Collaborative cohort model** with multiple mentors promoting sharing, teamwork, and building your network
- **Comprehensive LEGAL ONE “School Law” Institute**, which fulfills state requirement for legal training
- **Convenience of regional locations**
- **Most competitive pricing**, especially when compared to a second master’s degree (monthly payment options available)
- **Proven success**, with more than 2,500 alumni
- **Personalized career counseling, support, and guidance** from NJEXCEL administrative staff