In order to assist New Jersey colleges and universities with preparing future teachers to meet the needs of English language learners, the New Jersey Department of Education (NJDOE) is releasing the Higher Education English Language Learner Resource Guide. The guide, developed by college and university faculty training bilingual and English as a second language (ESL) teachers, identifies the knowledge and skills all teacher and service provider training programs should include in their course syllabi with a goal of making every classroom a place where English language learners are welcomed and given the supports they need to learn.

The guide can also serve as a resource for professional learning communities and school leadership teams to review how well the needs of English language learners are considered in all school environments. The document can be used in concert with New Jersey state regulations for bilingual education to familiarize teachers and service providers in training, as well as those currently working in schools, with appropriate services for English language learners. It is recommended that the guide be disseminated to all college faculty preparing our teachers and service providers as well as school principals.

Additional Information
For additional information regarding the guide, please contact the NJDOE’s Office of Supplemental Educational Programs at ell@doe.nj.gov. Additional resources regarding bilingual education may be found on the Bilingual/ESL Education web page.

c: Members, State Board of Education
   Lamont O. Repollet, Ed.D., Commissioner of Education
   NJDOE Staff
   Statewide Parent Advocacy Network
   Garden State Coalition of Schools
   NJ LEE Group