Date: October 4, 2019
To: Chief School Administrators, Charter School and Renaissance School Project Leads
Route To: Principals, District Registrars, District Homeless Liaisons and staff involved in student enrollment
From: Peggy McDonald, Assistant Commissioner
Division of Student Services
Deadline: October 11, 2019 by 5 p.m.

Temporary Emergency Impact Aid for Displaced Students

The New Jersey Department of Education (NJDOE) is pleased to announce that applications are available for Temporary Emergency Impact Aid for Displaced Students (Emergency Impact Aid), authorized by the Robert T. Stafford Disaster Relief and Emergency Act. Funds allocated under the Emergency Impact Aid program provide assistance to local educational agencies (LEAs) and nonpublic schools that have enrolled students displaced during the 2018-19 school year by Hurricanes Harvey, Irma or Maria or the 2017 California wildfires (i.e., “a covered disaster or emergency”). This letter provides the information necessary for LEAs to apply to the NJDOE for Emergency Impact Aid funds.

LEA Application Process
LEAs that have enrolled a student displaced as a result of a “covered disaster or emergency” must complete the LEA Application for Temporary Emergency Impact Aid for Displaced Students and submit the completed application in PDF format to OFDS@doe.nj.gov no later than 5:00 p.m. on Friday, October 11, 2019. In the application, the LEA must record the total number of public school and nonpublic school students who were displaced by a covered disaster or emergency during the 2018-19 school year. The counts must be recorded by quarter and by category; i.e., English language learner, student with a disability, student with both of the aforementioned, or neither of the aforementioned.

Nonpublic School Application Process
LEAs must contact nonpublic schools within their districts’ boundaries to coordinate the submission of nonpublic applications from displaced students enrolled in such nonpublic schools. The nonpublic school must then submit the completed 2019 Application by Parent or Guardian for Temporary Emergency Impact Aid, as well as the Certification by Nonpublic Schools for 2019 Temporary Emergency Impact Aid for Displaced Students, to the LEA in which the nonpublic school is located. LEAs will include the number of displaced nonpublic school students in their LEA Application for Temporary Emergency Impact Aid for Displaced Students to the NJDOE. LEAs will then make payments to accounts at the nonpublic schools on behalf of those students. Payments must be used for expenses for the 2018-19 school year only.

The NJDOE appreciates LEAs working within the timelines established by the U.S. Department of Education for submission of the LEA Application for Temporary Emergency Impact Aid for Displaced Students. For questions or assistance during the application process, please contact Anthony Hearn in the NJDOE Office of Fiscal and Data Services at (609) 376-3799 or OFDS@doe.nj.gov.

c: Members, State Board of Education
Lamont O. Repollet, Ed.D., Commissioner
NJDOE Staff
NJ LEE Group
New Jersey Charter Schools Association
Title I Committee of Practitioners
Statewide Parent Advocacy Network
Garden State Coalition of Schools