



**Guidance for Districts Seeking Approval of
Board Resolutions Limiting Student Participation in the Interdistrict School Choice Program**

- I. INTERDISTRICT PUBLIC SCHOOL CHOICE PROGRAM ACT OF 2010 (18A:36B)
- Allows any eligible student to apply to participate in the Choice program
 - A sending district may adopt a resolution to limit the number of its students participating in the choice program to an approved percentage of students. The resolution may limit participation to a maximum of 10% per grade per year and/or 15% of the total student body, subject to commissioner approval upon a determination that:
 - ✓ the resolution is in the best interest of the district's students, and
 - ✓ unlimited participation in the choice program would adversely affect the district's programs, services, operations, or fiscal conditions; and
 - ✓ unlimited participation in the Choice program would adversely affect or limit the diversity of the remainder of the student population in the district who do not participate in the choice program
- II. IN ORDER FOR A LIMITING RESOLUTION TO BE APPROVED, A BOARD MUST PROVIDE SUPPORTIVE DOCUMENTATION THAT ADDRESSES THE THREE CRITERIA IN THE STATUTE
- Documentation may include, but is not limited to:
 - ✓ Evidence of the Choice program's impact on district's student enrollment
 - ✓ Evidence of the Choice program's impact on district's student achievement
 - ✓ Evidence of the Choice program's impact on the diversity of the student population in the district
 - ✓ Evidence of the Choice program's impact on the number or quality of programs, course offerings or classes it is able to offer
 - ✓ Evidence of the Choice program's impact on the number or quality of the services it is able to provide
 - ✓ Evidence of the Choice program's impact on district operations
 - ✓ Evidence of the Choice program's impact on the fiscal conditions of the district

III. SUMMARY

The statute requires that all criteria be met as a condition for the commissioner to approve the district’s limiting resolution. Indicate if all criteria have been met.

Criteria	Met
<p>1. Limiting resolution is in the best interest of the district's students</p>	
<p>2. Unlimited participation in the Choice program is adversely affecting or will adversely affect the district's programs, services, operations, or fiscal conditions</p>	
<p>3. Unlimited participation in the Choice program is adversely affecting or limiting or will adversely affect or limit the diversity of the remainder of the student population in the district who do not participate in the choice program</p>	

IV. STEPS & TIMELINE FOR DISTRICTS THAT WANT TO LIMIT STUDENT PARTICIPATION IN CHOICE PROGRAM, 2015-16

- ✓ Adopt board resolution.
- ✓ Send board resolution along with justification and/or documentation that addresses all criteria above to the attention of Commissioner of Education to pschoice@doe.state.nj.us **by July 15, 2014.**
- ✓ Allow at least 4 weeks for NJDOE review and response.
- ✓ If approved by the Commissioner, the district must post their resolution on their website **by September 1, 2014** and publicize the timeline for students interested in applying to a choice program. (If more students want to apply to a choice district than are allowed to leave due to the limiting resolution, a lottery will need to be held by the end of October.)
 - the district must notify all students who submit their *Notice of Intent to Participate* of the approved limit on choice program participation and the date of its lottery