



The Arc of New Jersey

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Institute

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*here
to
help*



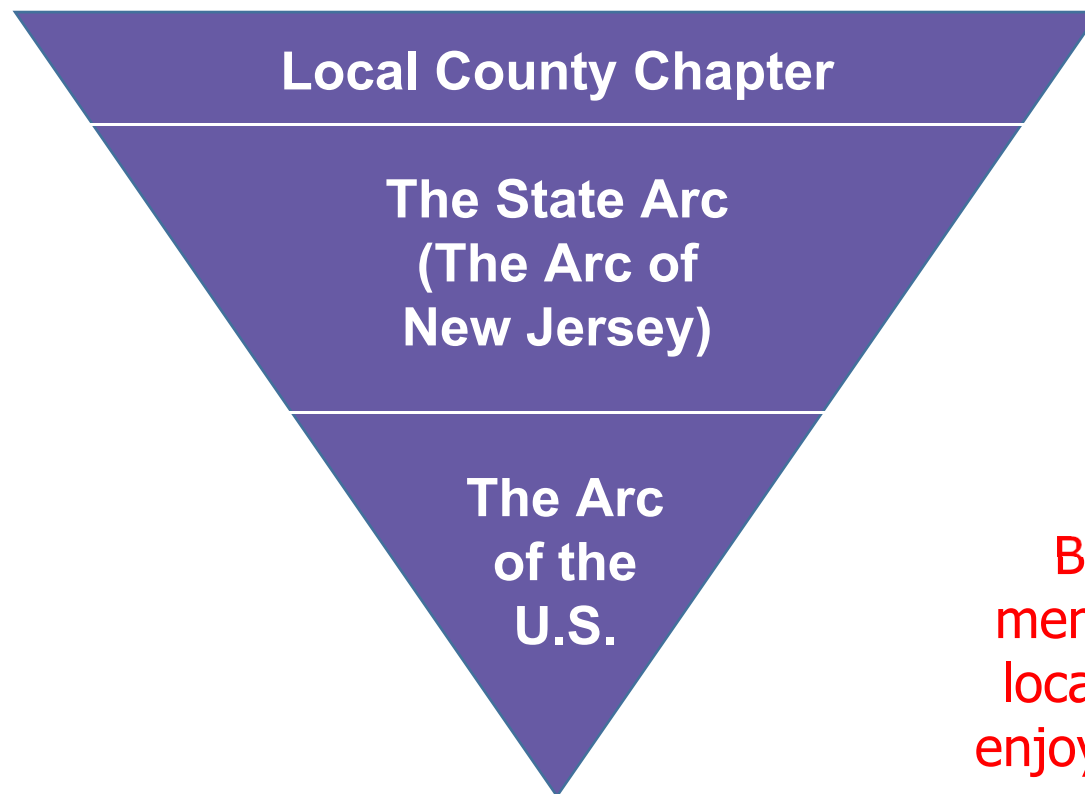
An Overview of The Arc of New Jersey



www.arcnj.org



The Arc Hierarchy



TIP!

**Become a
member at the
local level and
enjoy The Arc at
all levels!**



Local County Chapters

- 20 in New Jersey, serving all 21 counties
- Chapters provide direct supports & services
 - Early intervention/children programs
 - Group homes and other community based residential programs
 - Day programs
 - Supported and competitive employment
 - Recreation programs
 - Camps (www.thearcfamilyinstitute.org/resources/camp-funding-applications.html)
 - Family support services (ex.: Respite, assistive technology)
 - Counseling and medical care services
 - And so much more!



Visit our podcast
page to find out
more about your
local chapter.
bit.ly/fipodcast

bit.ly/localchaptersofthearcnj



The Arc of New Jersey

- Largest non-profit advocacy organization for people with I/DD and their families
- Parent directed membership organization
- Chapters in all 21 counties
- Governed by a volunteer Board of Directors

www.arcnj.org

info@arcnj.org

732.246.2525



Stay connected with The Arc of NJ's ongoing advocacy effort.
bit.ly/thearcnjnewslettersignup

www.TheArcFamilyInstitute.org



The Arc of New Jersey: Free Advocacy Services

- **Mainstreaming Medical Care**
www.mainstreamingmedicalcare.org
- **New Jersey Self-Advocacy Project**
www.njselfadvocacyproject.org
- **Criminal Justice Advocacy Program**
www.cjapnj.org
- **Planning For Adult Life**
www.planningforadulthoodlife.org
- **The Family Institute**
www.thearcfamilyinstitute.org



Visit their websites.
You never know
what you'll find.



The Arc of New Jersey: Support and Services

- **ProjectHIRE** (Free to families, must be tied to a funding source such as an IEP or DVRS, Private pay)
www.projecthire.biz
- **Camp Jaycee** (Private pay, PerformCare and DDD qualified camp)
www.campjaycee.org



TIP!

Each program
has their own
email list. Visit
their website to
join.



The Arc of New Jersey Family Institute

- We provide families with the necessary resources and education to access the appropriate supports and services for their loved one with an intellectual and developmental disability.



Check out our cool video about
The Family Institute at
<https://vimeo.com/263209336>

www.TheArcFamilyInstitute.org



Our Program

The Arc of New Jersey Family Institute provides families with the information they need to stay informed in order to better advocate on behalf of their loved one through:

Information

- Email updates about important issues and action alerts for upcoming legislation
- Fact sheets, Go Bags, Navigation at a Clip
- Monthly e-newsletters
- Resources and referrals

Individual and Systems Advocacy

- Creating changes on the local and state level that will benefit people with IDD and their families
- Providing one to one assistance to help families with NJ service systems and special education

Engagement

- Facebook - @thearcofnjfamilyinstitute
- Twitter & Instagram - @TheArcNJFI
- Attendance at resource fairs

Training & Education

- Webinars ○ Podcasts
- In-person workshops and presentations



We Offer

- Advocacy
- Education
- Resources
- Community





Advocacy

- E-mail Updates
- Action Alerts
- Monthly E-newsletter, The Family Advocate
- Individual Advocacy
- Systems Advocacy
- Resources (e.g. DD Awareness Month Tool Kit)




To check out our
archived newsletters
visit
bit.ly/fiwebsitearchive
and join today!



Intake Form

Problem Intake Form



Are you a caregiver, individual or professional who needs help navigating the system? No matter how old your child or loved one is, The Arc of New Jersey Family Institute can assist you with questions or concerns. Please include as much information as you can when filling out the form. After you submit the information, a member of The Arc of New Jersey Family Institute staff will contact you.

To download a hard copy of the problem form, click [HERE](#).

Consumer Information

Name of Person in Need of Assistance *REQUIRED

Date of Birth

Month ▾ / Day ▾ / Year

What is the individual's diagnosis? *REQUIRED

What We Offer

- The Arc of New Jersey Programs & Services
- Problem Intake Form**
- Individual Advocacy/Systems Advocacy
- Request a Speaker
- Webinars >
- Podcasts
- Navigation At a Clip
- Facebook Live Events
- Action Alert >
- IEP Reviews
- Archive >
- Find a Support Group
- Housing Workshop
- Book of the Month Selection

www.TheArcFamilyInstitute.org



You can download a hard copy of this form.



Education & Resources

Workshops

- Webinars
- Fact sheets
- Go Bags
- Navigation At a Clip
- Facebook Live Events
- Podcasts
- Five Facts Friday
- Supporting Sibling Project

Quick Notes

- Appeals Page
- County Roadmaps
- College Tours/IEP Reviews/Other special events

www.TheArcFamilyInstitute.org



**All of our
resources are
archived! So go
check them out!**



Community

- Connect caregivers with chapters of The Arc and community supports.
- Join our online community:
 - **Facebook:** www.facebook.com/thearcofnjfamilyinstitute
 - **Twitter:** www.twitter.com/TheArcNJFI
 - **Instagram:** www.instagram.com/thearcnjfi



Many of our programs have their own social media sites.



The Arc of the U.S.

www.thearc.org

- Policy and Advocacy
- The Arc's National Center on Criminal Justice
- The Arc@School
- The Arc's Center for Future Planning
- The Arc@Work
- The Arc's Health and Fitness for All The Arc's Wings for Autism®/Wings for All® (Wings) program



The Arc@School provides advocacy that helps students with I/DD navigate the special education system.

www.TheArcFamilyInstitute.org



Training resources for people with intellectual and developmental disabilities and their families

Training and information are critical for making decisions in the lives of children and adults with I/DD and their families. Visit The Arc of New Jersey's Databank of training resources, funded by the NJ Council on Developmental Disabilities.



www.ddtrainingresources.org

Individuals and organizations can submit events to be list on the website.

www.TheArcFamilyInstitute.org



Special Education Bill S3434 What Families Should Know for the '21-'22 School Year

The Arc of New Jersey Family Institute
www.thearcfamilyinstitute.org





S3434/A5366



- Signed by Governor Murphy on June 16th, 2021
- Extends eligibility for special education, related services, and transition services to certain students who turned 21 during the 2020-2021 school year.
- Also extends services to certain students who turn 21 during the 2021-2022 and 2022-2023 school years.
- If your child missed out on services because of the pandemic and will turn 21 this year or next year, they may be eligible under this law.



Are all Students who Turned 21 Eligible for Additional Services?

Not all students who receive special education and related services will be considered eligible under S3434. The IEP team must agree that the student requires additional services, including special education, related therapy/services and transition services.

Parents are active members of the IEP team and have the right to participate in the decision-making process and any meetings related to additional services for the student.





What are the Additional Services?

Additional or Compensatory Services can be offered by the school district in different ways including, but not limited to:

- An additional year in the school district
- Make up sessions for hours missed
- Services provided by agencies other than the school
- Therapy sessions for new challenges

Tip: Be creative and flexible to find options that will benefit the student. The IEP can help you recognize what may be needed.





Steps to Getting Additional Services Under S3434

- Request an IEP Meeting and state that you think your child needs additional services because of the COVID pandemic.
- Be prepared to show why you believe your child needs the additional services.

Gather any documents that support your position.

- Develop a list of potential solutions that you would like the district to consider.
- If graduation is approaching, let the IEP team know that your child will not be accepting a diploma.
- Remind the district that services associated with this law are federally funded, and the school will be reimbursed.

The Arc of New Jersey Family Institute is happy to help families prepare for IEP meetings, and if needed, attend as non-attorney advocates.



How Can I Show that My Child Needs Additional Services?

Implementing virtual services may not have met IEP requirements or the district's obligation to provide a free and appropriate public education (FAPE). You can take the following steps to show that your child needs additional services:

Document any services your child did not receive:

- Note the number of hours/sessions that were missed

Gather any pertinent documents from the school or your child's doctors

- Evaluations, progress reports, class recordings

Describe if your child experienced any of the following:

- New or pre-existing mental health challenges
- Increased anxiety or behavioral challenges
- Regression in learning or other skills





Districts Might Disagree With You

If your child's IEP team members reject your request for additional services, you can still go through the usual dispute resolution process.

Request mediation

- A neutral individual will assist in creating solutions that both parties can agree on.
- Mediation is voluntary, so the district and parents both need to agree to participate.

File for due process

- More formal resolution, similar to a court proceeding.
- A hearing officer will act as a judge.
- Attorneys are involved

Filing for mediation or due process will invoke stay-put, keeping the student in their current placement until the dispute is resolved.



Resources

- The Arc of New Jersey Family Institute IEP Go Bag - bit.ly/iepgobag
- S3434 Checklist for Parents - bit.ly/3434parents
- Disability Rights New Jersey- <https://disabilityrightsnj.org/>
- New Jersey Council on Developmental Disabilities (NJCDD) S3434 Fact Sheet - bit.ly/njcdd3434
<https://njcdd.org/>
- Education Law Center - <https://edlawcenter.org/>
- Statewide Parent Advocacy Network
<https://spanadvocacy.org/>



Contact Us!

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No question is too small!

www.TheArcFamilyInstitute.org



**Keep Asking
Questions!**