

Application for Restoration of Reductions Timelines

- A. **The NJSBA believes** that applications for restoration of reductions must be concluded by a specific date which is as close to the beginning of the school year as possible and that a mechanism should exist to compel adherence by all entities involved to the established timelines.
- B. **The NJSBA believes** that boards of education should make non-legislative efforts to expedite the application for restoration of reductions process. Boards which have applied for restoration of reductions should seek to obtain their audit reports as early as possible, even before the statutory deadline. Upon receipt of the audit report, boards should approve it as quickly as possible for early submission to the Commissioner of Education. Should early receipt of the audit report not be available, applying boards should minimally have the auditor certify the surplus aspect of the account for submission to the Commissioner of Education. Such early submissions will facilitate timely application for restoration of reductions decisions.
- C. **The NJSBA believes** that boards should be in contact with their auditor early in the application for restoration of reductions process. A quarterly or semiannual auditing schedule should be considered in order to shorten the auditing time frame at the end of the budgetary year. Such a process would provide the extra benefit of uncovering auditing concerns earlier in the application for restoration of reductions process, giving boards of education an opportunity to rectify same before the end of the fiscal year.
- D. **The NJSBA believes** that all boards of education applying for a restoration of reductions should be required to submit their annual audits on or before October 1; 90 days after the end of the fiscal year instead of the current 120 days. *[Authority: DA 6/95-3; DA 11/95-CR (School Finance); DA 11/96-CR (School Finance); DA 5/97-CR (School Finance)]*
- E. **The NJSBA believes** that the Commissioner of Education should be required to rule on all applications for restoration of reductions prior to November 1 of the fiscal year for which the application was made.
- F. **The NJSBA believes** that if the Commissioner of Education does not issue an application for restoration of reductions decision by November 1 of the fiscal year from which the application was made, all budgetary reductions applied for restoration be restored to the local district. *[Authority: DA 6/78-18; 6/93-SR; DA 6/95-3; DA 11/95-CR (School Finance); DA 5/96-SR; DA 11/96-CR (School Finance); DA 5/97-CR (School Finance), 11/01-SR, 11/06-SR, DA 11/11-SR, DA 12/16-SR]*

Cross References: 3100 Budget planning, preparation and adoption
3150 Official adoption by voters/board of estimate

Key Words: budget, reductions restorations