What is the NJ Digital Learning and Assessment Portal?

The New Jersey Department of Education established the _NJ Digital Readiness for Learning and Assessment Portal_ to support New Jersey school districts in preparing for a transition to digital learning and assessment. Education leaders in New Jersey recognize that planning for this change requires consideration of both instructional and assessment technology, with a goal to ensure alignment of technology use for teaching, learning, and assessment. The intent of the _NJ Digital Readiness for Learning and Assessment Portal_ is to provide a collection of online resources, planning guides, and professional development to assist districts in this transition.

Who should access this portal?

The portal is targeted for all education leaders interested in planning for and implementing digital learning and assessment. The suite of resources serve as the foundational materials and resources for the NJDOE and Regional Teams that will provide technical assistance and capacity building to LEAs and LEA/Testing Sites.

What content is available on this portal?

The content on the portal will become available in phases, beginning with tools and resources to ensure districts have assessment-ready devices and the network capacity to support online assessment. This initial phase will help drive the shift to digitally-enhanced learning as districts consider how to leverage that technology to support best practices for teaching and learning.

Phase I. _In the initial phase_, the content on the portal focuses on technology readiness for New Jersey LEAs and Test Sites. It provides school districts with:

- The most current information on State guidelines and updates
- A link to NJTRAx, the New Jersey Readiness Tool for Online Assessment
- A planning guide to assist New Jersey districts and schools in identifying gaps in their readiness for online assessment and a guide for closing those gaps.
- Access to resources and online professional development intended to build the capacity of New Jersey schools and districts to get ready for online assessment
- A support ticket system that enables NJ district staff to request and receive technical assistance for online technology readiness

This collection of online resources will expand during 2014, to include introductory and definitional papers, procurement services for devices and internet bandwidth, and additional online resources and professional development. Each resource is strategically aligned to the NJTRAx gap analysis; and each is designed as a stand-alone resource as well as a resource to supplement technical assistance or training sessions.

Phase II. _The second phase_, beginning in mid-2014, will offer information and guidance for readiness for digital learning, with planning guides, webinars, white papers and other online resources to support districts with this phase of their transition.

How are the portal contents organized?

The catalog of online resources in the *NJ Digital Readiness for Learning and Assessment Portal* is organized for the most efficient access to the type of information needed. It includes the following components, plus information and updates from the New Jersey Department of Education:

A login for NJTRAx. NJTRAx is an interactive database developed to assist New Jersey districts and schools in assessing their technology readiness for online assessments as well as for digital learning.

Support. Participants complete a support ticket to request help, to have a question answered by the NJ Department of Education, or to submit a suggestion.

FAQ. *Frequently Asked Questions* provide answers to common questions about users, internet bandwidth, device characteristics and more.

A growing collection

The collection of online resources on the *NJ Digital Readiness for Learning and Assessment Portal* will continue to grow over the next two years, as districts and schools prepare for online learning and assessment. Education leaders are encouraged to visit the portal often for updates and additional resources to guide them in this transition.

All students will be prepared to meet the challenge of a dynamic global society in which they participate, contribute, achieve, and flourish through universal access to people, information and ideas.

– Vision Statement of the New Jersey Department of Education