

Matthew Feinstein
Executive Director NJ LEEP

Mr. Feinstein has been involved with NJ LEEP from its inception and became Executive Director in 2014. He holds a B.A. from The University of Maryland at College Park and a J.D. from Seton Hall University School of Law, where he was a Chancellor Scholar and a member of the Legislative Journal. He is also a graduate of the Rutgers Business School Institute for Ethical Leadership, Nonprofit Executive and Emerging Leader, and Executive Fellows Certificate Programs. He has also completed coursework in non-profit management at Harvard Business School.

NJ LEEP stands for The Law and Education Empowerment Project. NJ LEEP is a college access and success program serving students and families in the greater Newark area. NJ LEEP helps students graduate, attend and graduate from competitive colleges, and begin careers. NJ LEEP serves 70 middle school students, 148 high school students, 127 college students, and over 300 family members.

The College Bound Program serves first-generation and low-income students enrolled in grades 6-12 from more than 20 public, private, and charter schools across the greater Newark area. Most youth possess multiple risk factors to college matriculation and persistence.

In Newark, college matriculation and success is the exception, not the norm. While approximately 25% of public school students in Newark earn a college degree, 100% of NJ LEEP program graduates have matriculated to college. 85% of NJ LEEP students are currently enrolled or have graduated from college. The College Bound Program empowers middle and high school students with both the academic and social-emotional skills necessary to succeed in college and beyond.