

# SENATE, No. 743

## STATE OF NEW JERSEY 221st LEGISLATURE

PRE-FILED FOR INTRODUCTION IN THE 2024 SESSION

**Sponsored by:**

**Senator PATRICK J. DIEGNAN, JR.**

**District 18 (Middlesex)**

**Senator KRISTIN M. CORRADO**

**District 40 (Bergen, Essex and Passaic)**

**Co-Sponsored by:**

**Senator McKnight**

**SYNOPSIS**

Establishes Training Clinicians to Support Adults with Autism Workforce Development Program in Rutgers Center for Adult Autism Services; appropriates \$500,000.

**CURRENT VERSION OF TEXT**

As reported by the Senate Health, Human Services and Senior Citizens Committee with technical review.



**(Sponsorship Updated As Of: 3/14/2024)**

1 AN ACT concerning services for adults with autism, supplementing  
2 chapter 65 of Title 18A of the New Jersey Statutes, and making  
3 an appropriation.  
4

5 **BE IT ENACTED** by the Senate and General Assembly of the State  
6 of New Jersey:  
7

8 1. a. There is established in the Rutgers Center for Adult  
9 Autism Services at Rutgers, The State University, the Training  
10 Clinicians to Support Adults with Autism Workforce Development  
11 Program, the purpose of which shall be to recruit and train  
12 individuals to serve adults who have autism and drive innovations  
13 to improve the quality of life for adults who have autism in New  
14 Jersey.

15 b. Subject to the provisions of subsection c. of this section, the  
16 Rutgers Center for Adult Autism Services at Rutgers, The State  
17 University shall have the discretion to determine the scope and  
18 details of the program, including whether to establish the program  
19 on a full-year basis, on a semester basis, as a summer program, or  
20 for an alternate duration. The Rutgers Center for Adult Autism  
21 Services may additionally establish different iterations of the  
22 program for undergraduate students and graduate students, as well  
23 as for part-time and full-time students.

24 c. At a minimum, the program shall seek to enroll at least eight  
25 to 10 students per year and provide at least 20 to 40 hours of  
26 intensive training to program enrollees per week, subject to the  
27 following requirements:

28 (1) The program shall seek to recruit students enrolled in  
29 baccalaureate, master's, and doctoral programs across a range of  
30 disciplines, including, but not limited to, psychology, medicine,  
31 law, education, social work, computer science, business, and the  
32 arts;

33 (2) In recruiting students, the program shall seek to select  
34 students who demonstrate a commitment to a future career  
35 supporting adults with autism; and

36 (3) The training provided under the program shall include, at a  
37 minimum: intensive hands-on training alongside senior clinical  
38 staff at the Rutgers Center for Adult Autism Services; academic  
39 coursework to supplement the hands-on clinical training;  
40 opportunities to work alongside senior faculty to develop new  
41 research concerning best practices to encourage successful  
42 outcomes for adults with autism; and the completion of an  
43 innovative capstone project related to ensuring improved outcomes  
44 in the overall quality of life for adults who have autism.  
45

46 2. There is appropriated from the General Fund to the Rutgers  
47 Center for Adult Autism Services at Rutgers, The State University,

**S743 DIEGNAN, CORRADO**

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1 the sum of \$500,000 to support the establishment and  
2 implementation of the Training Clinicians to Support Adults with  
3 Autism Workforce Development Program established pursuant to  
4 section 1 of this act.

5

6 3. This act shall take effect immediately.