



April is Distracted Driving Awareness Month

As the weather gets nicer and our schedules become jam-packed with vacations and outdoor activities, it's easy to get sidetracked behind the wheel. However, in the month of April, let's hit pause on distractions and tune into safety. Whether it's putting down that phone, keeping the music at a reasonable volume, or just staying focused on the road ahead, let's all do our part to keep our streets safe for everyone. Remember, it's not just about arriving at our destinations—it's about getting there safely!

According to the National Safety Council, the three main types of distractions are:

- Visual distractions - anything that takes your eyes off the road
- Manual distractions - anything that takes your hands off the wheel
- Cognitive distractions - anything that takes your mind off of driving

If something requires your hands, your eyes or your attention while you're driving, it's a distraction. When you're behind the wheel, your only job is to drive! #JustDrive

NJSIG has partnered with National Safety Council (NSC) to provide their online defensive driving course at **no additional cost to NJSIG members who drive on behalf of the district.**

Please contact the Safety and Risk Control Department or email riskcontrol@njsig.org to get assistance with the online defensive driving course.

[Click here](#) for additional information about National Safety Council's online defensive driving course.



April Showers Bring... Mold How to Prevent Mold Growth in Your School Buildings

What do May flowers and mold have in common? They both love April rain showers! Make sure your buildings are being properly ventilated, and that someone is regularly monitoring for leaks and water damage.

Moisture problems in schools can be caused by a variety of conditions, including roof and plumbing leaks, condensation and excess humidity.

Suggestions for reducing mold growth in schools:

- Reduce indoor humidity
- Inspect the building for signs of mold, moisture, leaks or spills
- Respond promptly when you see signs of moisture and/or mold, or when leaks or spills occur
- Prevent moisture condensation
- Floor and carpet cleaning

[Click here](#) for tips on controlling mold and indoor air quality from the United States Environmental Protection Agency.

Mold Remediation Services and Reporting:

If you have any questions, please contact [NJSIG's Claims-Liability](#) team.

Additional Mold Prevention Information and Resources:

[United States Environmental Protection Agency: Creating Healthy Indoor Air Quality In Schools](#)

[CDC: Facts on Mold and Dampness](#)

[CDC/NIOSH: Preventing Occupational Respiratory Diseases](#)



Responsible Play: Keeping Kids Safe on Playgrounds

Ever ask an elementary student about the best part of their school day? Odds are they'll shout out "recess" or "playing on the playground" without a second thought. That's why **National Playground Safety Week, happening April 22 through 26**, serves as an important reminder to prioritize playground safety protocols. The [National Safety Council](#) reminds us to take this week to refresh our knowledge on playground safety guidelines and spread awareness within our communities, ensuring every child's "favorite part of school" is filled with laughter, fun, and free from avoidable risks.

New Jersey Schools Insurance Group's (NJSIG) vendor/partner H&S Loss Control Inspections Company will provide our property and casualty members with comprehensive playground inspections **at no additional cost**. Playgrounds can be inspected annually by request. To schedule your playground inspection by a certified playground inspector, email riskcontrol@njsig.org.

Additional Playground Safety Information and Resources:

National Safety Council "Staying Safe on Playgrounds" - [Click here](#)

American Academy of Pediatrics "Playground Safety" - [Click here](#)

National Program from Playground Safety (NPPS) - [Click here](#)



NJSIG's Safety Grant Portal is Now Open!

NJSIG's Safety Grant Portal has officially opened its doors! Completing the entire grant application should take no more than a few minutes of your time.

The Safety Grant program by NJSIG offers members funding for proactive risk management and safety-related project enhancements. The grant portal is accessible from April 1 to June 1, 2024.

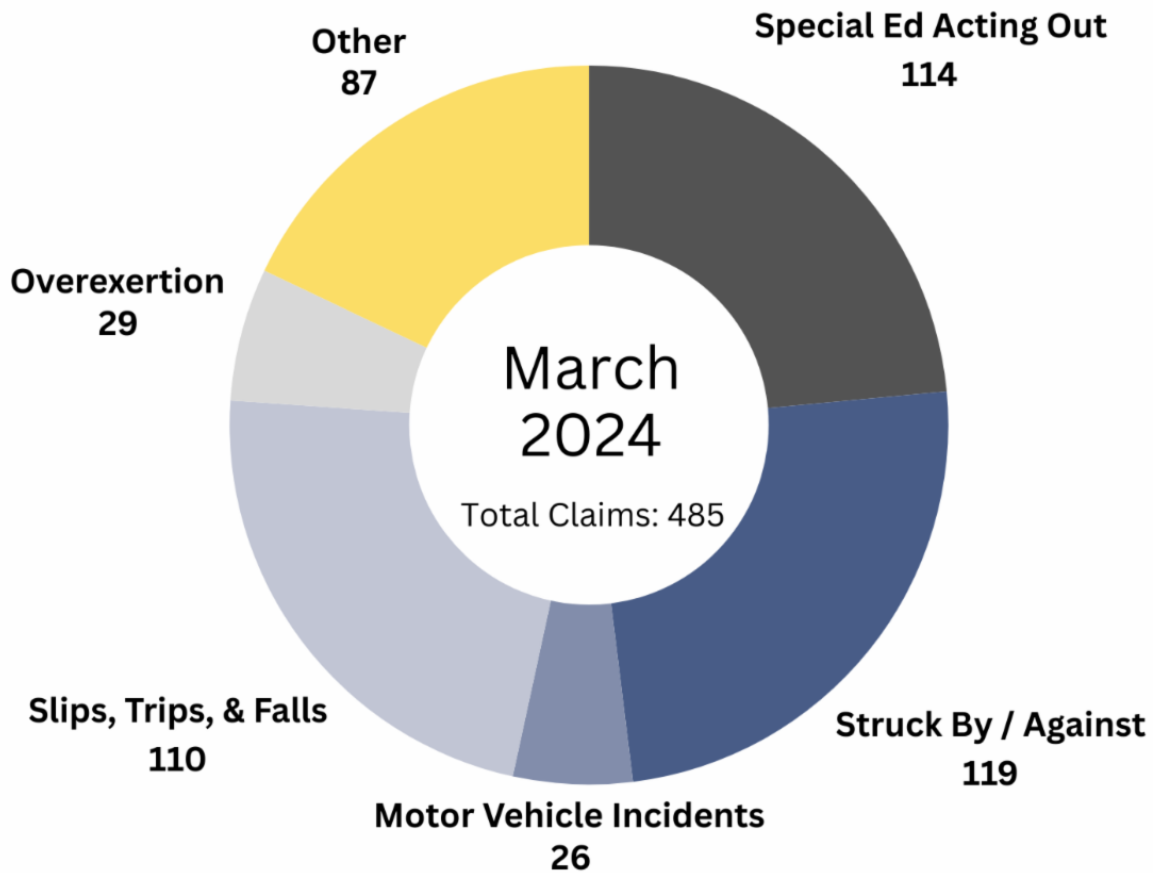
If the business administrator or school district representative have not previously logged into the portal, they **must "Request an Account"** from the link on the NJSIG login screen, located below "Recover Password."

[Click here](#) to access NJSIG's Safety Grant Portal.

[Click here](#) for login instructions to the Safety Grant Portal.

For any questions or concerns, please contact Joanne Gunter, Senior Safety & Risk Control Coordinator 609-386-6060 x 3021, jgunter@njsig.org or email the grants box at grants@njsig.org.

Top 5 Claims Reported



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