

Why create the New Hampshire Career Development Curriculum Framework?

This framework serves as a guide for establishing high standards for career development education and for local decision-making about curriculum development, delivery, and assessment in this important area of learning. It establishes expectations and educational standards that define what New Hampshire students should know and be able to do relative to career development. The framework is a guide for districts, schools, and educators, rather than a list of activities or a specific curriculum. Therefore, there is great flexibility in classroom instruction and in development of local curricular objectives. This framework is based on the significant body of research in career development and the best instructional and guidance practice carried out over the past twenty-five years. The Department of Education is committed to using the results of this research for systematic educational improvement and change.

What is "Career Development"?

Career development in its broadest perspective is a lifelong process by which an individual defines and refines life and work roles. It includes

awareness of individual interests, skills, attitudes, talents, and abilities, particularly as they change and develop throughout the educational experience. This process provides the context in which students explore a variety of educational and occupational opportunities, learn the realities of the workplace, and identify both the technical skills and individual qualities that they will need to succeed in the modern economy.

As set forth in the *Minimum Standards for Public School Approval* (Concord: State School Board and Department of Education, 1996), career education prepares students to make informed career decisions through awareness and understanding of individual qualities that contribute to success, the ability to use employment data and other resources to support decision-making, and an awareness of the training and post-secondary options available for success.

Who are the authors?

The New Hampshire Career Development Framework writing and development process included wide input, writing, and review through presentation, survey and feedback efforts to a variety of relevant groups statewide. The Committee of writers is represented in the following ways:

- ◆ Business Personnel
- ◆ Educators, all grade levels
- ◆ Guidance Counselors
- ◆ Higher Education Personnel
- ◆ School Administrators
- ◆ School-to-Careers Coordinators
- ◆ State Educational Leadership
- ◆ Vocational Educators

How is the Career Development Framework organized?

The framework identifies what students should know and be able to do in three broad areas: Core Educational Learning, Individual/Social Learning, and Career Learning. Each area is sequenced by grade level: Grades K-4, Grades 5-8, Grades 9-10, and Grades 11-12.

What will the Framework do for the educational community in New Hampshire?

This document will provide direction and guidance to educators, parents, schools, businesses, local school boards, policy makers and administrators, and higher education. Adoption of the framework is voluntary and will demonstrate a commitment to excellence in career education in New Hampshire.

Does the Career Development Framework have to be approved?

As with all State Curriculum Frameworks, the Career Development Framework was approved by the State Board of Education and the Legislative Education Oversight Committee before it was published.

Is there a timeline?

The Framework Committee completed the approval process during 1999, with publication and distribution in 2000. It is intended that an addendum will be developed. This will include activities, resources, examples of student work, and sample assessments of career development.

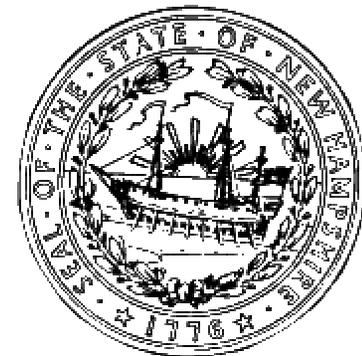
How will this framework be assessed?

Career development learning occurs and is embedded in all areas of education. Therefore, *concepts* of career development learning will be a part of the State Assessment Tests for grades 3, 6, and 10. In addition, an effort is underway to make a variety of authentic assessment methods accessible and available to educators for all areas of learning, including the career development competencies. The NH Competency-Based Assessment System provides a valid and reliable method for such assessment.

Sponsored by: The New Hampshire
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The Career Development Curriculum Framework

A guide to what students should
know and be able to do in the
important area of career
development



Supporting
High Standards
in
Education
for
Every Child