State legislation (RSA 188-E:14, IV.) enacted in 2002 introduced an opportunity for State capital budget funding to develop and implement engineering programs for middle school and high school students in New Hampshire. Additional rules related to RSA 188-E:14 can be found in the NH Code of Administrative Rules ED 1407. As of February, 2014, 38 schools across New Hampshire have received funding under this initiative.

Middle school and high school programs provide preliminary coursework, and those programs must work collaboratively with their respective regional career and technical education center(s) to articulate their students to the regional center for the capstone course(s). Regional career and technical education centers must further develop and maintain a secondary to postsecondary linkage that encourages a seamless transition from the career center program to college level engineering certificate or degree programs.

State capital budget funds continue to be available for the development of engineering technology programs, with $125,000 currently available at varying levels, dependent upon the populations being served:

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Populations to be served</th>
<th>Maximum Award</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Middle Schools (Grades 6 through 8)</td>
<td>$15,000</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>High Schools (Grades 9 through 12)</td>
<td>$25,000</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Regional Career Technical Education Centers</td>
<td>$50,000</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

At a minimum, each district receiving funds must match the State award with public and/or private funds on a dollar-for-dollar basis (50/50), thus demonstrating local support for the program. Such matching funds must meet the criteria outlined in the New Hampshire Code of Administrative Rules ED 1407.02(3). Districts must also certify that local funds will be made available to fund the continuation of this program annually, ensuring sustainability of the newly established engineering pathway.

Access to this funding is through the submission of a New Hampshire Pre-Engineering Fund Application submitted with related attachments to the NH Department of Education, Bureau of Career Development.

Applications must include narrative responses to the following items, further explained in the NH Engineering Program Application:

- Instruction: Curriculum and Plan for Delivery
- Student Portfolios and Notebooks
- Software, Equipment and Resources
- Professional Development/Instruction
- Advisory Committee
- Student Enrollment
- Administrative Support/Sustainability
- Funding and Budget
- Communication and Outreach
Applications are accepted on a rolling basis and as funds are available.

The process for review of applications for NH Pre-Engineering Fund grants that do not utilize one of the PETAC approved curricula has the added, initial step of presenting the curriculum to PETAC for approval prior to having their grant application reviewed. The process for review of applications for NH Pre-Engineering Fund utilizing one of the PETAC approved curricula:

1. Applications are received in the Career Development Bureau (CDB).
2. Applications are reviewed for completeness & clarity.
3. A. If complete, PETAC is notified to put the application on the agenda for their next meeting.
   B. If components are missing or clarification is needed then technical assistance is provided to the LEA in order to fully complete and clarify the application, which is resubmitted to the NHDOE. (Return to step 2 above)
4. A. PETAC reviews complete grant applications at their next meeting (LEA members may or may not attend) and votes for or against recommending the funding of the application.
5. The Career Development Bureau notifies schools of the grant status. Funded applicants are asked to enter their grant information within 10 days of the funds being set up in GMS in order for the GMS entrance to be reviewed in GMS in a timely manner.

There are two additional reporting requirements associated with this funding.

1. Recipients will be expected to submit an assessment biennially in the format provided by the Pre-Engineering Fund details (see the NHDOE website’s Pre-Engineering page for more information).
2. A two-page narrative final report must be attached to the grant in the Department of Education Grants Management System (GMS) at the time the grant is closed. Required specific elements of that report include:
   - Outcomes and key achievements;
   - Number of students served, disaggregated by gender;
   - Impact/benefits of class/program; and
   - District plan for sustainability of the class/program.

In order to determine the balance of funds currently available in the NH Pre-Engineering Fund, a report is run from the Grant Management System (GMS). Inquiries for funding availability should be directed to the Career Development Bureau.

For further information contact:

Nicole Bellabona
Bureau of Career Development
21 South Fruit Street, Suite 20
Concord, NH 03301
Phone: 603-271-3535
Nicole.Bellabona@doe.nh.gov