



New Hampshire Charter School Office

Response to Questions: RFP No. 2023-CSP-01

Alignment Analysis of CPS Statute and Regulation

Below are responses to questions received as of April 24, 2023, with regard to the above referenced Request for Proposals.

1. *Has any kind of analysis like this been done before by another entity? Could the NHDOE provide it to the vendor?*

This would be the first analysis of this kind since the charter school rules and legislation were established.

2. *Is this analysis looking at strictly what is in law and regulation or looking at practice as well?*

A review of best practices and recommendations based on such would be helpful to the Department in the next steps of implementation; it will help provide context to members of the legislative bodies in the New Hampshire that will need to introduce any changes. Vendors should plan to include in their final work product a characterization of the recommendation or reasoning for the recommendation (ig: based on best practices, RSA as written is in conflict with Administrative Rule, etc.).

3. *Should recommendations be based solely on a legal review or on a review of practice as well?*

A review of best practices and recommendations based on such would be helpful to the Department in the next steps of implementation (please see answer to question 2). Recommendations made in the final report based on best practices should be noted as a recommendation based on best practice.

4. *Do you anticipate in-person reviews or would all work be done remotely?*

NHED doesn't anticipate a requirement for in-person work for this contract. It is likely that this project can be effectively completed remotely.

5. *Would a liaison at the NHDE provide information about NH school performance, context, and current authorizing practices?*

Yes, NHED's Charter School Administrator, Charter School Program Grant Administrator, and other resources in the department will be available for interviews, answer questions, and to confer with the chosen contractor, as needed. Additionally, NHED has a website to publicly report on public school performance. [iPlatform | Department of Education \(nh.gov\)](https://platform.ed.nh.gov) NHED will assist the chosen vendor in navigating this platform and obtaining available data needed for the analysis.

6. *Are there budget limitations for this project?*

This project will be funded through our federal Expanding Opportunity Through Quality Charter Schools Program Grant. We have set aside \$350,000 for improvements to our authorization system, which would include this project. This budget can be adjusted to accommodate the needs of the project based on the bids received.



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7. Does this project require any of the work to be completed in-person; if so, what components of the project are required to be completed in-person?

NHED doesn't anticipate a requirement for in-person work for this contract. It is likely that this project can be effectively completed remotely.

8. Is there an estimated budget for this project?

This project will be funded through our federal Expanding Opportunity Through Quality Charter Schools Program Grant. We have set aside \$350,000 for improvements to our authorization system, which would include this project. This budget can be adjusted to accommodate the needs of the project based on the bids received.

9. Is there a preferred timeline for specific deliverables (i.e., what is expected to be completed in the first contract year)?

As noted in Section 6, schedule for delivery will be a factor in determining the selected contractor. We are asking vendors to supply a schedule for delivery of their scope of services. Our intention is to have this project completed so that we may engage members of the legislature prior to the grant expiration.

Our grant expires on September 30, 2024, but we have built an extra year into the contract for these services to afford the Department flexibility in the event we apply for and receive a no-cost-extension year for our project.

10. Is anyone at the Department current working on changes to the NH Administrative Rules for Education?

No. While staff at the Department of Education have identified areas of the rules and RSAs that are vague or in conflict with each other, there is not an active project to develop revisions at this time. The intent of the Department is to use the product as a starting point to work collaboratively with members of the legislature to craft changes.

11. Would the Department like the vendor to conduct any stakeholder engagement (i.e., hold focus groups with charter school operators, staff, students, and families)?

The Department does not wish include that as part of this project.

12. Can you please clarify what "record copy of final recommendations" means (as noted in Section B. Expected Deliverables)?

The record copy means a final report that outlines all the recommendations from the chosen contractor, preferably in electronic (pdf) format.

13. Would the Department be interested in the vendor conducting best practices research on charter school rules in comparison states?

Please see answers to questions 2 and 3. If research on the vendors part is required to provide these best practice recommendations, please include it in your proposal.