

Learn Everywhere Fact Sheet

Legislation

In 2018, the New Hampshire Legislature approved and Gov. Chris Sununu signed into law SB 485, an act relative to alternative programs for granting credit leading to graduation. The new law directed the State Board of Education to adopt rules “relative to the approval of alternative programs for granting credit leading to graduation,” a program known as Learn Everywhere.

Commissioner Frank Edelblut submitted the initial rules proposal to the board in December. The board held a public hearing on the Learn Everywhere rules in February.

Administrative Rules

The proposed rule, Ed 1400, outlines the application and approval and monitoring process for for-profit and non-profit entities to offer educational programs that meet minimum standards for credit leading to graduation or toward a student’s individualized education program.

- Applicants wishing to offer credit toward graduation must submit: a description of qualifications, an outline of the proposed program’s goals, competencies, and expected student outcomes, a description of assessments of student learning outcomes, a description of the admissions process, a description of facilities, including compliance with federal and state health and safety requirements, and proof of insurance.
- All applications first will be reviewed by a team that includes the administrator of the Office of Academics and Professional Learning, department representatives with relevant content and competency expertise, a representative from the Extended Learning Opportunity network, and at least one state-licensed educator in the content area.
- If an application passes this review, it must be approved by the State Board of Education, which has the option of conditionally approving, approving, or denying an application.
- Initial and conditional approvals will last for one year. During that year, the program will be inspected by the Department of Education. The State Board of Education may withdraw approval from programs found to be in violation of Learn Everywhere program rules. If the State Board of Education decides to extend a program beyond its initial year, the approval shall extend for a period of five years.
- Approved Learn Everywhere programs will be monitored, and inspected annually, by the department.

The Learn Everywhere program was conceived and created to expand learning opportunities for New Hampshire public school students. As such, only students enrolled in a New Hampshire public school can earn Learn Everywhere credits. Acceptance of credits earned by students while not enrolled in a New Hampshire public school shall be up to the district superintendent.

To record graduation credits earned through a Learn Everywhere program, students must submit completed certificates to their school. To ensure that every New Hampshire public school student has equal opportunity to obtain Learn Everywhere credits, all schools must allow a student to earn up to 1/3 of his or her required graduation credits through the Learn Everywhere program. Schools may, but are not required to, accept as much as 100 percent of credits required for high school graduation.

Next Steps

If approved by the State Board of Education, the draft rules must be sent to the Joint Legislative Committee on Administrative Rules (JLCAR).