



New Hampshire

Department of Education

Promising Futures for New Hampshire

Request for Applications 2024 – 2025

Relevant Legislation: [RSA 12-J:3](#), Governor's Commission on Alcohol and Drug Abuse Prevention, Treatment, and Recovery & [RSA 135-f](#), System of Care for Children's Mental Health

Overview: The Promising Futures for NH Project is a partnership between New Hampshire Department of Education Bureau of Student Wellness and Nutrition (NHED BSWN), the NH Department of Health and Human Services Bureau for Drug and Alcohol Services (BDAS). NHED will issue competitive grants to NH Local Education Agencies (LEAs) that meet eligibility requirements to fund the implementation of strategic substance misuse prevention strategies, as well as other universal prevention strategies and interventions for grades K-12. See Table A for relevant areas of focus and examples of allowable strategies.

In addition, each grantee LEA will explore preliminary implementation or expand existing implementation of either New Hampshire's Multi-Tiered System of Supports for Behavioral Health and Wellness (MTSS-B) or the Pyramid Model Framework (PMF) though:

- Mobilizing a district-level team to engage in exploration/expansion of MTSS-B or PMF;
- Examining school and community data;
- Evaluating and increasing community partnerships;
- Assessing and aligning other school/district initiatives;
- Completing the NH Schoolwide Substance Misuse Prevention Fidelity Tool and other relevant MTSS-B fidelity tools, provided by NHED; and
- Determining next steps in adopting or expanding MTSS-B or PMF.

LEA participants will complete the above steps through a foundational training, monthly cohort meetings, and one-on-one coaching that will provide opportunities for reflection, skill building, and action planning. Participants will understand the importance of developing protective factors and eliminating and mitigating risk factors to promote student wellness. Responses to this request for applications received by the deadline will be scored by independent peer reviewers.

Directions:

1. Review the following Request for Applications (RFA) to ensure that the school's program meets eligibility requirements and that all grant application materials and requisites can be provided at the time of application submission.
2. Submit all application components in Appendix A.
3. LEAs can request up to a maximum of \$25,000 for school year 2024-2025. There is no award minimum amount for each proposal. LEAs that receive funding in school year 2024 – 2025 will have the opportunity to reapply in school year 2025 – 2026 for additional funding to continue the project for a second year.

Section 1: Eligibility

1. **Must be a New Hampshire Local Education Agency**—Proposals should be submitted by the LEA. Within the application, identify the schools for which funds are being requested.
2. **The LEA must have an endorsement from the Superintendent** – Proposals must include a signature from the current Superintendent, Appendix A.
3. **Completion of Pre-Funding Webinar** – Applying LEAs must attest to the completion of the Pre-Funding Webinar within their application.

Absolute Priorities:

1. **Implement an evidence-based prevention strategy** – Proposals that focus on how the funding will be used to increase protective factors for students and decrease risk factors. See Table A for relevant areas of focus and examples of allowable strategies.
2. **Develop, enhance, or expand the implementation of a multi-tiered framework** – Proposals that focus on how the funding will improve behavioral outcomes and learning conditions for students in participating communities, and decrease risk factors.

Note: The NHED will not accept applications that do not meet these competitive priorities.

Competitive Preference Priorities:

1. **Implement an evidence-based substance misuse prevention strategy** – Proposals that include an evidence-based strategy specific to substance misuse. See Table A for relevant areas of focus and examples of allowable strategies.
2. **LEAs that have not received previous funding** – Proposals from LEAs that have never received funding from NHED to explore or implement MTSS-B or PMF.

Note: The NHED will accept applications that do not meet these competitive priorities, but such applications will receive 0 points under competitive preference priority 1 and/or 2.

Relevant areas of focus	Examples of allowable strategies
Substance misuse prevention	Search Institute training
Vaping prevention and public awareness	Youth Mental Health First Aid
Trauma-responsive schools training	Crisis Prevention Intervention (CPI)
Suicide prevention training	Law Enforcement Against Drugs (LEAD)
School violence prevention/threat assessment programming	ChooSELove
Bullying prevention	Life of an Athlete
	Botvin Life Skills
	Too Good for Drugs, Too Good for Violence

Social-emotional learning Mandated reporter training Universal screening	Lion's Quest The Good Behavior Game Project SUCCESS Student Assistance Program Check & Connect Regulated Classroom
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Section 2: Timeline

The following table provides the timeline for this project. The Department of Education reserves the right to amend this schedule at its sole discretion and at any time through written notification.

Event	Date	Local Time
Anticipated Request for Applications Posting	08/23/2024	4:00 PM
Applicant Inquiry Period Ends (applicants can ask questions re: this RFA)	09/03/2024	4:00 PM
Agency responses to Applicant Inquiries (applicants can expect reply to inquiries)	09/06/2024	4:00 PM
Application Deadline	09/27/2024	4:00 PM
Anticipated Grant Award Notification (GAN) and Grants Management System (GMS) Allocation	10/04/2024	4:00 PM
LEA Budget Preparation in GMS Deadline	10/11/2024	4:00 PM
Project Period	10/11/2024	06/06/2025
Baseline Data Due	01/10/2025	4:00 PM
Interim Report Due	03/14/2025	4:00 PM
Final Reporting, Expenditures, and Supporting Documentation Due	06/06/2025	4:00 PM

Appendix A: Application Package

A complete application will include Sections 1, 3, 4, & 5 completed within this document and converted to a PDF. Section 2 must be completed in a separate document and attached as a PDF.

Section 1: Local Education Agency Information

LEA	
Name of Person Completing Application	
Role/Title of Named Person Above	
Phone Number	
Email Address	
Superintendent Name	
LEA Project Manager	
Phone number	
Email Address	
LEA Business Administrator	
Phone number	
Email Address	
District i4see Coordinator	

(Section 1 continued)

How many schools are in your LEA?	
How many schools will be participating in this project in your LEA? Student population per school?	
Name of participating schools and corresponding administrators	
Website (if applicable)	

Section 2: Project Design

Please respond to the below items in a **separate document attached to your application**. See Appendix B for the scoring rubric. We encourage applicants to limit this section of their application to 5 pages and adhere to the following guidelines:

- a. Statement of need (Up to 5 points)
- b. Explain how the program will meet Absolute Priority 1 (Up to 30 points)
- c. Explain how the program will meet Absolute Priority 2 (Up to 30 points)
- d. If applicable, explain how it addresses Competitive Preference Priority 1 (Up to 5 points in the scoring rubric)
- e. If applicable, explain how it addresses Competitive Preference Priority 2 (Up to 5 points in the scoring rubric)
- f. Explain how you will evaluate your project efforts, including the anticipated outcomes and associated data indicators you will use to evaluate each selected strategy and a timeline for data collection (Up to 10 points)
- g. If this grant is received, how does your LEA plan to sustain MTSS-B/PMF implementation and selected prevention strategies? (Up to 5 points)

Formatting guidelines

- A “page” is 8.5" x 11", on one side only, with 1" margins at the top, bottom, and both sides.
- Double space all text in the application narrative, including titles, headings, footnotes, quotations, references, and captions, as well as all text in charts, tables, figures, and graphs.
- Use a font that is either 12 point or larger or no smaller than 10.
- Use one of the following fonts: Times New Roman, Courier, Courier New, or Arial.

Section 3: Budget

The NH Department of Education has the ability to provide up to \$25,000 in support of the activities outlined in this proposal. Below, please provide an itemized budget and budget justification detailing how your LEA would utilize this funding. This item will be graded as part of the application package and is worth up to 10 points.

ITEM/ACTIVITY	NARRATIVE JUSTIFICATION	RATE (COST PER ITEM)	COST
Salary <i>(stipends not to exceed 20% of award)</i>			
(1)			\$
(2)			\$
(3)			\$
(4)			\$
(5)			\$
Benefits			

(1)			\$
(2)			\$
(3)			\$
(4)			\$
(5)			\$
Supplies			
(1)			\$
(2)			\$
(3)			\$
(4)			\$
(5)			\$
Contractual			
(1)			\$
(2)			\$
(3)			\$
(4)			\$
(5)			\$
TOTAL REQUEST			\$

Section 4: Signatures

The following administrators have committed to implement this project as proposed. They understand the project and its requirements and will support all activities, engagement, and evaluation described herein. Additional lines may be added to this chart.

Title	Name	Signature
Superintendent		
Director of Student Services		
Director of Student Wellness		
Building Administrator [school name]:		
Building Administrator [school name]:		
Building Administrator [school name]:		
Person completing application		
Person designated at Project Manager		

Section 5: Attestation

Person(s) preparing attest to having viewed “Pre-Funding Webinar for LEAs” and completing the brief questionnaire.

- By checking here, I attest that I have viewed the Pre-Funding Video for LEAs and completed the associated brief questionnaire

Directions for Application Submission

Completed applications shall include all appendices outlined in this guidance document. In the event that the applicant elects to not use the provided templates, the applicant is responsible for providing all requested information and formatting the document using the same section titles. Any information that is not clearly identified will not be considered during scoring.

Completed applications must be submitted by the deadline. Please submit applications with the subject title “[District Name] - Promising Futures for NH Application” to:

Katherine Leswing, Administrator
Office of Social and Emotional Wellness
NH Department of Education
25 Hall Street, Concord NH 03301
katherine.a.leswing@doe.nh.gov (603) 931-0486

All questions regarding this application must be directed to the Office of Social and Emotional Wellness Administrator.

Appendix B: Application Grading Rubric

Application Scoring Rubric Used by Independent Peer Reviewers

Statement of Need (5 points)	LEA has provided a statement of need including two or more sources of risk/ protective factor data to support their claim. (5 Points)	LEA has provided a statement of need including one source of risk/ protective factor data to support their claim. (3 Points)	LEA provided a statement of need with no data to support claim. (1 Point)	LEA has not provided a statement of need. (0 Points)	
Absolute Priority 1 (30 points)	LEA has an identified an evidence-based strategy and describes how it will increase protective factors and/or decrease risk factors for students. LEA includes citations to the evidence base. (30 Points)	LEA has identified a promising strategy or a strategy with local evidence of effectiveness. LEA describes how it will increase protective factors and decrease risk factors for students. (20 Points)	LEA has identified a strategy with no evidence but describes how it will increase protective factors and decrease risk factors for students. (10 Points)	LEA did not identify a strategy to be used. (0 Points)	
Absolute Priority 2 (30 points)	LEA describes three or more steps they will undertake to develop, enhance, or expand the implementation of a multi-tiered framework to improve behavioral outcomes and conditions for learning. (30 Points)	LEA describes two steps they will undertake to develop, enhance, or expand the implementation of a multi-tiered framework to improve behavioral outcomes and conditions for learning. (20 Points)	LEA describes one step they will undertake to develop, enhance, or expand the implementation of a multi-tiered framework to improve behavioral outcomes and conditions for learning. (10 Points)	LEA does not describe how they will develop, enhance, or expand the implementation of a multi-tiered framework to improve behavioral outcomes and conditions for learning. (0 Points)	
Alignment to Competitive Preference Priority 1 (5 points)	LEA has an identified an evidence-based strategy specific to substance misuse. (5 Points)	LEA has identified a promising strategy or a strategy with local evidence of effectiveness specific to substance misuse. (3 Points)	LEA has identified a substance misuse strategy with no evidence. (1 Point)	LEA did not identify a strategy specific to substance misuse. (0 Points)	

Alignment to Competitive Preference Priority 2 (5 points)	LEA has not received previous funding from NHED to support MTSS-B or PMF. (5 Points)	--	--	LEA has not received previous funding from NHED to support MTSS-B or PMF. (0 Points)	
Project Evaluations (10 points)	The evaluation plan links application of described priority areas to specific, measurable outcomes and data indicators. (10 Points)	The evaluation plan links application of described priority areas to general, but measurable outcomes and data indicator. (7 Points)	The evaluation plan links application of described priority areas to vague outcomes with no data indicators. (4 Points)	The evaluation plan does not link the application of described priority areas to specific, measurable outcomes and data indicators. (0 Points)	
Sustainability Plan (5 points)	LEA identifies two or more sources of funding or supports for sustainability of their proposal beyond the life of the grant. (5 Points)	LEA identifies one source of funding or support for sustainability of their proposal beyond the life of the grant. (3 Points)	LEA does not identify a current source of funding or support for sustainability beyond the life of the grant but describes potential ideas for sustainability. (1 Point)	LEA does not include a sustainability plan. (0 Points)	
Complete and Clear Budget (10 points)	Budget includes all elements in Section 3: Budget, with justifications connected back to the priorities of the grant. (10 Points)	Budget includes all elements in Section 3: Budget, with justifications do not align to the priorities of the grant. (7 Points)	Budget is missing some elements in Section 3: Budget, with justifications that may or may not align to the priorities of the grant. (4 Points)	No budget included. (0 Points)	
Total Points of 100					

