

New Hampshire Department of Education – Bureau of Student Wellness and Nutrition

New Hampshire Department of Health and Human Services – Bureau for Drug & Alcohol Services

Promising Futures for NH

Funding Opportunity Announcement (FOA): BSW-2023-01

Posted: [08-08-2023]

Extended Application Due Date: [09-18-2023]



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Section 1: Project Overview & Schedule

1. Executive Summary

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). This project will provide financial support to NH Local Education Agencies (LEAs) to advance the development and expansion of strategic substance misuse prevention strategies, as well as other universal prevention strategies and interventions for grades Pre-K-12.

Selected LEAs will attend foundational training and monthly cohort meetings 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.

Through participation in the Promising Futures for NH project, LEAs will be expected to select one of the following tracks:

|  |  |
| --- | --- |
| Track 1 | Track 2 |
| Implement or expand a substance misuse prevention strategy\* | Implement any universal (Tier 1) prevention strategy in conjunction with exploration of either the Multi-Tiered Systems of Support for Behavioral Health and Wellness (MTSS-B) or Pyramid Model Framework (PMF) |

\*LEAs who choose Track 1 may choose to explore MTSS-B or PMF, but this is not required.

Strategies selected in either track are encouraged to be evidence-based whenever possible**.**

MTSS-B is a tiered prevention framework through which school communities select and implement best practices to support the behavioral health and wellness of all students (universal), those with increased needs (targeted), and those experiencing the most challenges (intensive). For more information on the MTSS-B Framework, visit the [NH MTSS-B Technical Assistance Center.](https://nhmtssb.org/)

PMF is a social and emotional learning framework that promotes young children’s healthy development and prevents challenging behaviors. This Model focuses on building the adults’ skills so that they can support children’s social and emotional health. This is done through strengthening relationships and directly teaching emotional literacy, self-regulation, listening, friendship skills, and basic problem-solving. The Model addresses how and when to identify and provide for children who may need individualized support.

1. Project Schedule

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

|  |  |  |
| --- | --- | --- |
| EVENT | DATE | LOCAL TIME |
| Funding Opportunity Announcement Posting | 08/08/2023 | 4:00 PM |
| Applicant Inquiry Period Ends *(applicants can ask questions re: this FOA)* | 08/17/2023 | 4:00 PM |
| Agency Responses to Applicant Inquiries (*applicants can expect reply to FOA queries)* | 08/24/2023 | 4:00 PM |
| Application Deadline | 09/18/2023 | 4:00 PM |
| Anticipated Grant Award Notification and Grants Management System Allocation | 09/22/2023 | 4:00 PM |
| LEA Budget Preparation in Grants Management System Deadline | 09/29/2023 | 4:00 PM |
| Project Period | September 30, 2023 - May30, 2024. |
| Baseline Data Due | 01/13/2024 | 4:00 PM |
| Interim Report Due | 03/17/2024 | 4:00 PM |
| Final Reporting, Expenditures, and Supporting Documentation Due | 06/16/2024 | 4:00 PM |

Section 2: Description of Agency & Eligible Applicants

1. Description of Agency

The Promising Futures for NH project is a partnership between New Hampshire Department of Education (NHED) Office of Social & Emotional Wellness (OSEW), and the NH Department of Health and Human Services Bureau for Drug and Alcohol Services (BDAS). The Office of Social & Emotional Wellness advances youth social-emotional wellness by collaborating with federal, state, community, and family partners to implement evidence-based, data-driven, preventative, and responsive approaches to develop lifelong social-emotional skills among New Hampshire students.

1. Eligible Applicants

Any New Hampshire Local Education Agency (LEA), including traditional public schools and Public Charter Schools, is eligible to apply with the endorsement of their superintendent or its governing body. Priority will be given to applicants who have not previously received a Promising Futures award. While the LEA serves as the applicant, the scope of the work proposed could be school-based. LEAs are encouraged to strategically consider the readiness, willingness, and need of individual schools when applying to ensure sustainability beyond the life of the project.

LEAs will choose one of two tracks:

* **Track 1:** Implement a substance misuse prevention strategy. (Exploration of MTSS-B or Pyramid Model Framework is optional in this track.)
* **Track 2:** Implement any universal prevention strategy in conjunction with exploration of either the MTSS-B or Pyramid Model framework.

Applicants that choose Track 2 must demonstrate a commitment to support the exploration of *either* Multi-Tiered Systems of Support for Behavioral Health and Wellness (MTSS-B) *or* Pyramid Model Framework (PMF). Applicants that choose Track 1 may decide to explore MTSS-B or PMF, but it is not required. MTSS-B is aimed at K-12 systems while PMF is designed for Pre-K and Kindergarten (early childhood). Exploration through this project will include assembling an exploration team of district leaders to meet monthly, completing exploration tasks in the monthly cohort meetings, and making a collective decision about the adoption of MTSS-B or PMF at the end of the grant period. Please complete Appendix G to show district commitment.

Section 3: Project Design

1. Project Requirements

The following required parameters exist on awarded applications:

* 1. Maximum awards are not to exceed $25,000.
	2. Funds and activities must be spent and completed within the performance period.
	3. Funds must be used to support the implementation or expansion of a substance misuse prevention strategy, or any universal (Tier 1) prevention strategy in conjunction with exploration of either the MTSS-B or Pyramid Model Framework.
	4. Applicants must name a District Project Manager who will oversee grant implementation and attend monthly cohort meetings.
	5. Applicants must view the [pre-funding video](https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=CAumlOXCyHk) and have completed the associated [questionnaire](https://docs.google.com/forms/d/1m-p2r9EGu1VY5-Zo6kiEhbYZl1e4J9gLiiFtUU6OD5Q/edit).
	6. Applicants that intend to use funds at the middle and high school level must include the [implementation of the Good Life app, a new, innovative, NH-based student](https://nextstepgoodlife.com/) virtual tool to build youth protective factors (<https://nextstepgoodlife.com/>), in their action plan.

Additional allowable activities and expenses include:

* + - Supplies to support universal prevention strategies/programs
		- Professional development and capacity building
		- Curriculum
		- Public awareness campaigns
		- Stipends (For substitute pay or for training participant pay above and beyond contracted hours. Total not to exceed 20% of the award.)
1. Scope of Work

Successful applicants will:

* Formulate a written, data-driven action plan that outlines the implementation timeline, including the deadlines stated in the Project Schedule in Section 1B.
* Submit a specific plan to effectively evaluate outcomes.
* Develop and demonstrate a connection between Promising Futures for NH activities and long-term efforts, including multi-year plans and systems development and integration.
* Provide evidence of connections to and alignment with other community efforts.

The following focus areas and evidence-based prevention practices/programs may help guide applicants' implementation plans.

Areas focus areas could include:

* Substance misuse prevention
* Vaping prevention and public awareness
* Trauma-responsive schools training
* Suicide prevention training
* School violence prevention/threat assessment programming
* Bullying prevention
* Mandated reporter training
* Universal screener tools

Examples of specific programs include, but are not limited to:

* Search Institute training
* Youth Mental Health First Aid
* The Campus Radio Initiative
* Crisis Prevention Intervention (CPI)
* Law Enforcement Against Drugs (LEAD)
* Drug Abuse Resistance Education (DARE)
* ChooSELove
* Life of an Athlete
* Botvin Life Skills
* Too Good for Drugs, Too Good for Violence
* Lion’s Quest
* The Good Behavior Game
* Project SUCCESS Student Assistance Program
1. Performance Period

The performance period runs through May 15, 2024. Applicants will begin training and implementation upon award in Fall 2023.

Section 4: Application Content and Scoring Criteria

Applications will be reviewed and scored using the following scoring criteria:

* Application Cover Page (Appendix A)
* Project Implementation and Evaluation Plan (Appendix B) – 30 points, outlined below:
	+ Project Implementation Summary, including GoodLife app implementation plan (15 points)
	+ Implementation and Evaluation Timeline (15 points)
* School, District, and/or Community Needs (Appendix C) – 20 points
* School, District, and/or Community Fit (Appendix D) – 25 points, outlined below:
	+ Alignment with district goals (5 points)
	+ Tiered-prevention framework (5 points)
	+ Student voice (5 points)
	+ Family voice (5 points)
	+ Community engagement (5 points)
* School, District, and/or Community Capacity to Implement (Appendix E) - 10 points
* District Budget and Budget Justification (Appendix F) – 15 points
* Person(s) preparing application viewed “Pre-Funding Webinar for LEAs” and completed brief questionnaire (Appendix G) — 5 points
* Administrator(s) signature(s) indicating commitment to participate in and support of the Promising Futures for NH project (Appendix H) – 5 points
* Directions for Application Submission (Appendix I)

If you are unable to answer any of the application questions as a result of insufficient infrastructure, services or resources in place, mark N/A, and provide an explanation of how you intend to support collection of that information in the future. The total number of points awarded will be an important factor but not the only consideration in selecting districts. Other factors may include geographic distribution, size and demographic diversity of applicants.

The Department of Education reserves the right to seek clarification of any information contained in a submitted application for this initiative

APPENDICES: Application Forms

*The following forms may be used by applicants to construct their package. Applicants may also use their own forms, provided that all of the section titles and required information are included.*

*Appendix A: Promising Futures for NH Cover Page*

|  |  |
| --- | --- |
| LEA |  |
| Name of Person Completing Application |  |
| Role/Title of NamedPerson Above |  |
| Phone Number |  |
| Email Address |  |
| Superintendent Name |  |
| District Project Manager  |  |
| Phone number |  |
| Email Address |  |
| Collaborative CommunityPartner(s) |  |

|  |  |
| --- | --- |
| How many schools are inyour district? |  |
| How many schools will be participating in this project? Studentpopulation per school? |  |
| Name of participatingSchools and corresponding administrators |  |
| Website (if applicable) |  |

*Appendix B: Project Implementation and Evaluation Plan*

In the space provided below, please provide a summary of the activities proposed in this application. Successful applicants will include the name of the selected evidence-based\* strategy(ies), a plan for implementing the strategy(ies), connections to other district or community efforts, a plan to effectively evaluate outcomes of the strategy(ies), and a plan for sustaining the strategy(ies) past the life of the grant. If implementing in middle or high schools, please include your plan for utilizing the *GoodLife app.* (30 points)

\*Please watch the “Pre-Funding Webinar for LEAs” on how to select evidence-based strategies.

For which track are you applying?

[ ]  **Track 1:** Implement a substance misuse strategy. (Exploration of MTSS-B or Pyramid Model Framework is optional in this track.)

[ ]  **Track 2:** Implement a universal strategy in conjunction with exploration of either the MTSS-B or Pyramid Model framework.

If you are applying for Track 1, does your district wish to explore MTSS-B or PMF?

[ ] Yes – MTSS-B

[ ] Yes – Pyramid Model

[ ] No

Project Implementation Summary (based on selected track):

Implementation & Evaluation Timeline: *Indicate planned activities and evaluation measures below. Include deadlines according to Project Schedule (Section 1B).*

*Appendix C: School, District, and Community Needs*

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In the space below, please provide data to illustrate your school community’s needs and gaps related to the strategy you intend to implement. Areas to address include existing programs and resources, school population data, and other community health data. Data sources may include Youth Risk Behavior Survey (YRBS) results, discipline data, free and reduced lunch, census data, etc. (20 points)

*Appendix D: School, District, and Community Fit*

The applicant must assess the fit of their selected strategy for their local context. Community engagement is central to maximizing efforts, ensuring long-term sustainability, and fostering positive outcomes for children and youth. The following section is worth a total of 25 points.

Please explain how your school district’s vision, mission, and current programming align with the efforts proposed in this application. (5 points)

Please describe how your school district supports social and emotional wellness, including through the prevention of risky behaviors, substance misuse prevention, and the promotion of protective factors amongst the student body. (5 points)

Please describe how your school district empowers student voice. Identify ways that student voice will be used to address and support the proposal outlined in this application. (5 points)

Please describe how your school district empowers family voice. Identify ways that family voice will be used to address and support the proposal outlined in this application. (5 points)

Please describe how your school district interfaces with the broader community and other child-serving organizations. Identify ways that these collaborative relationships will be leveraged to address and support the proposal outlined in this application. (5 points)

*Appendix E: School, District, and Community Capacity*

Capacity to support the proposed project implementation is dependent upon buy-in from all relevant stakeholders, including staff, students, families, educators, and community members. Please describe your plan for garnering buy-in for the proposed activities and your communications strategy for sharing about implementation. (10 points)

*Appendix F: Budget and Budget Justification*

The Department of Education has the ability to provide up to $25,000 in support of the activities outlined in this proposal. Awards are released to the LEA at the district level, not the SAU. Accordingly, if you are looking to fund more than one district within your SAU please provide a budget for each district.

 Please provide an itemized budget and budget justification detailing how your district would utilize this funding. Add rows as needed. (15 points)

|  |  |  |  |
| --- | --- | --- | --- |
| ITEM/ACTIVITY | NARRATIVE JUSTIFICATION | CALCULATION | COST |
| Salary*(stipends not to exceed 20% of award)* |
| (1) |  |  | $ |
| Benefits |
| (1) |  |  | $ |
| Supplies |
| (1) |  |  | $ |
| Contractual |
| (1) |  |  | $ |
|  |
| TOTAL REQUEST | $ |

*Appendix G: Pre-Funding Webinar*

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*](https://docs.google.com/forms/d/1m-p2r9EGu1VY5-Zo6kiEhbYZl1e4J9gLiiFtUU6OD5Q/edit)*.*

*Appendix H: Administrative Commitment*

The following administrators and community partners 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. (5 points)

|  |  |  |
| --- | --- | --- |
| Name | Title | Signature |
|  | Superintendent |  |
|  | Director of Student Services |  |
|  | Director of Student Wellness |  |
|  | Building Administrator:[School Name] |  |
|  | Building Administrator:[School Name] |  |
|  | Building Administrator:[School Name] |  |
|  | Community Partner |  |
|  | Person completing the application |  |
|  | Person designated as Project Manager |  |

*Appendix I: 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:

Heather Clogston, Prevention Coordinator

Office of Social and Emotional Wellness

NH Department of Education

101 Pleasant Street, Concord NH 03301 heather.m.clogston@doe.nh.gov

(603) 573-1479

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