



Friday Forum

November 8, 2024

- NHED has [selected](#) a talented group of high school artists to paint a wall mural for its mascot, Max the Moose. Congratulations to Addison Delano, Cassilly Gould, Arianna Malaquias and Shannon Connolly from Spaulding High School in Rochester for being selected as winners of the **statewide art contest**.
- Deadline approaching! NHED is launching a pilot program for **hydroponic gardens** in schools and has 15 Flex Farms for distribution. To request a hydroponic system, superintendents may complete the [Pilot Program Request Form](#) by Nov. 12. Only one request may be submitted per SAU, and this request must be submitted by the superintendent. This pilot program is non-competitive, however if more than 15 SAUs apply, priority selection will be given to the school with the higher percentage of free and reduced eligibility. More details [here](#).
- Public charter schools that lease their facilities are eligible to **apply for lease aid** from NHED. Approved public charter schools may receive aid of up to 30% of eligible costs or \$50,000, whichever is less (lease aid is dependent upon the total appropriation made available by the legislature). There are two versions of the lease aid application form for FY26. Charter schools that did not receive aid for the 2024-2025 school year, or whose lease has undergone substantive changes from last year, will need to submit an [Initial Lease Aid Application](#) by Jan. 1, 2025. Charter schools that did receive aid for the 2024-2025 school year may submit a [Lease Aid Renewal Application](#) by Sept. 1, 2025.
- The portal for **School Emergency Operation Plan** submissions closed Oct. 16. To request an extension, please click on the [Portal Link](#) and follow the instructions. Once on the self-assessment under the header “Emergency Operation Plan,” there is a box to check off requesting an extension. Once this is complete, proceed by answering the self-assessment questions and attach the Emergency Operation Plan.
- Please share with high school seniors! College Guidance Network is hosting an “Expert Answers for Last Minute Questions” hotline from 6-8 p.m. on Nov. 10. This hotline is designed for NH students considering **Early Action** at UNH, or any students with looming early deadlines. Feeling pressure or unsure of how to fill out part of the application? Drop in and join the CGN hotline to get your questions answered. [Register here](#).
- NHED is accepting [applications](#) for the **ESSA State Committee of Practitioners**, which serves to advise the state in carrying out its responsibilities under the Elementary and Secondary

Education Act of 1965, as amended by the Every Student Succeeds Act of 2015. COP members serve for three years; the deadline for applications is Dec. 1.

- The NH State Fire Marshal's Office has been awarded a grant for the installation of **carbon monoxide alarms**, to include school buildings, at no charge. Please complete this [survey](#) by Nov. 22. Your responses will be used to determine interest in participating in the program (new or replacement), as well as helping us determine how many NH schools are currently protected by carbon monoxide alarms.
- **Summer EBT (S-EBT)** provides families with a one-time payment of \$120 per eligible child to buy food during the summer months when students don't have access to free or reduced-price meals at school. DHHS has reached out to families that participated in the SNAP, Medicaid, or TANF programs during the 2023-2024 school year and they will be automatically enrolled in S-EBT unless they opt out. Families that participated in the National School Lunch Program but did not participate in SNAP, Medicaid or TANF may also be eligible for S-EBT, but must provide their address through the DHHS portal that will be open Nov. 15 to Dec. 15.
- Tickets are almost sold out! NH's [Bringing Back the Trades](#) event featuring **Mike Rowe** will take place on Nov. 15 at NHTI in Concord with networking, hands-on demos and career opportunities for high school students. Tickets and scholarships are still available for students. Schools may also receive free live-stream video remote access [here](#); simply click on "get tickets" and select the free option. *For schools that have already purchased tickets, please email amanda@grappone.com to share the number of students attending who are receiving free and reduced price meals; the Community College System of NH has offered 333 lunch vouchers at \$15 each for F&R students to use during the career fair.*
- The Children's Museum of New Hampshire in Dover is offering one of four virtual STEAM [workshops](#), including materials, to **NH Title I elementary school classrooms** for free on a first come, first serve basis. Email neva@childrens-museum.org.
- Schoolhouse is offering its next round of free **SAT Bootcamps** for the December exam. The four-week [SAT Bootcamp](#) is virtual, small-group tutoring sessions that begin the week of Nov. 8.
- To support Title IV, Part B 21st Century Community Learning Centers out-of-school-time programming for expanded academic enrichment opportunities for children attending high poverty schools, NHED is seeking approval from USED for a Tydings waiver for FY2022 **Title IV, Part B funds** awarded under Section 4201 of the Elementary and Secondary Education Act of 1965, as amended, until September 30, 2025. This request to extend the obligation period is submitted pursuant under section 421(b) of the General Education Provisions Act. This permits NHED to expend the remaining FY2022 awarded balance related to this waiver request. NHED is seeking public input on its request. More details [here](#). Email comments to ESEA@doe.nh.gov by Dec 1.

- **Learning Forward** will be hosting its 2025 Learning Forward Annual Conference next year in Boston. To prepare, educational leaders from the region are invited to participate in [scoring presentation proposals](#).

Recognition, Awards and Scholarships

- The **MIT Club of New Hampshire** is excited to offer a scholarship of \$2,300 to one outstanding STEM educator from NH to join a group of 50 exceptional teachers from around the world in a week-long program on MIT's campus. This [program](#) is designed for secondary school educators who teach science, technology, engineering or math and are recognized as innovative, creative and dedicated leaders in their communities. If you, or a teacher you know, would be an excellent fit for this opportunity, please show your interest by [registering](#).
- USED has launched its 2024-2025 [Engage Every Student Recognition Program](#) application. This program aims to recognize non-profit organizations, LEAs and municipalities or local government entities working together to expand access to high-**quality afterschool and summer learning programs**. The application will close on Jan. 31.
- The **NH Teachers of Mathematics** is seeking nominations for two annual awards. The [Richard C. Evans Distinguished Mathematics Educator Award](#) is for an experienced teacher with five or more years of experience teaching math in New Hampshire. The [Fernand J. Prevost Mathematics Teaching Award](#) will be given to a beginning teacher who is committed to mathematics.

Resources for Educators

- Discovery Education is hosting a webinar centered around intervention, acceleration and maximizing teacher time. The [webinar](#), **Maximizing Instructional Time to Meet the Needs of all Students**, will take place at 2 p.m. on Nov. 19. All NH schools have access to Discovery Education Experience and free in-person or virtual professional development.
- NHED is partnering with Khan Academy to offer **Khanmigo** for educators and students in grades 5-12 statewide. Khanmigo, an AI platform, serves as a teaching assistant for educators and a tutor for students. School administrators are encouraged to visit [Khanmigo for New Hampshire](#) to initiate the free contracting process.
- NHED's [UpGrade](#) program aims to increase the number of **educators earning tech credentials**, as well as encourage existing technology leaders to receive educator endorsements to teach computer science and similar tech courses. For existing educators, NHED will reimburse the cost of any exams or licensure costs for qualified credentials, up to a total of \$2,000. In addition, teachers will receive a stipend for each credential acquired, up to a total of \$750.
- **Tutor.com** offers 24/7 [online tutoring](#), essay drop-off and test prep services for all New Hampshire students in grades 4-12, as well as adult education learners at no cost.

To have information included in future editions of the Friday Forum, email
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