



Friday Forum

December 20, 2024



NHED would like to wish you a very happy holiday season and a peaceful and prosperous New Year.

- This month, USED's Office for Civil Rights released four new resources that inform **students with disabilities**, and their families and schools, about relevant legal rights under Section 504. These resources explain the application of Section 504 to students with inflammatory bowel disease, migraines, narcolepsy, and students who stutter. The fact sheets may be found [here](#).
- **Mastering National History Day.** Plymouth State University, National History Day (NHS) and the NH Historical Society are offering an advanced workshop for NH teachers to improve teaching with primary sources and guide students in the NHD Project-Based Learning program sponsored by the Library of Congress, administered by Waynesburg University. The goal is to assist teachers in helping their students make projects that are rich in historical analysis. The [event](#) will take place from 8:30 a.m. to 3 p.m. on Jan. 31 at the NH Historical Society in Concord.
- Final reminder that [Initial Lease Aid Applications](#) for 2025-2026 are due by Jan. 1, 2025. This version of the application is for **charter schools** that did not receive aid for the 2024-2025 school year, or whose lease has undergone substantive changes from last year. Those charters that did receive aid for the 2024-2025 school year, and whose lease has not undergone any substantive changes from last year, may submit a [Lease Aid Renewal Application](#) by September 1, 2025. Under the Charter School Lease Aid program, public charter schools may receive aid of up to 30% of eligible costs or \$50,000, whichever is less.
- Get outside this winter and share this opportunity with your students. **Ski NH** is offering its 4th and 5th grade [passports](#) for \$59, which allow students to receive one lift ticket to each of Ski NH's 30 ski areas.
- NHED's **Bureau of Credentialing** is sharing its [December newsletter](#).

- The **New Hampshire Bar Foundation** is sponsoring a [High School Civics Essay Contest](#), which is open to students enrolled in grades 11 and 12. Winners will receive up to \$5,000 in prizes.
- **Safe Grants (Rounds 1, 2, and 3)**: All funds must be expended and all activities completed by Dec. 31, 2024. There are no extensions available. The last day to submit reimbursement requests is Jan. 30. Please submit your reimbursement requests in GMS. Email Krzysztof.J.Armatus@doe.nh.gov with questions.
- Earlier this fall, USED issued a [Letter to Chief State School Officers on Arts Education](#), which encourages districts to consider how to expand **access to the arts** in their schools.

Workshops and Webinars

- The New Hampshire Council for Exceptional Children is hosting an [informational webinar](#) at 4 p.m. on Jan. 30 to discuss writing measurable **IEP goals** with your colleagues.
- UNH Professional Development & Training has K-12 education workshops focused on **classroom technology** this January, including [Google Educator L1](#), [Using Video Modeling and Peer Modeling to Teach SEL Skills](#), and [Differentiation with Google Workspace Tools](#).

Resources for Educators

- 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.
- Your **Discovery Education** managers for NH are available for no-cost professional learning to help educators leverage an engaging and effective resource. Think of Discovery Education Experience as the Swiss-Army knife for learning! Curiosity-sparking multimodal content (all subject areas plus virtual field trips and career exploration), integrated edtech tools for personalization and differentiation, covering K-12, with integrated on-demand professional learning. Support for new teachers and ELL's is available. [Learn more.](#)

To have information included in future editions of the Friday Forum, email
Kimberly.C.Houghton@doe.nh.gov