



New Hampshire

Department of Education

Friday Forum

April 29, 2022

- Each year, [Project Invent](#) invites innovative educators to join them for a one-year **Fellowship experience**. Fellows empower their students to design solutions to local community challenges, and then pitch their ideas on a national stage. Project Invent is now accepting applications from middle and high school educators. Educators in the Fellowship receive professional development, networking opportunities, expert volunteer support, staff support, tech support and ready-made classroom activities to empower their students as inventors. [Apply](#) by May 31.
- Considered one of the nation's highest honors for graduating high school seniors, six NH students have been named semifinalists in the **2022 U.S. Presidential Scholars Program**. Learn more [here](#).
- The NH Department of Health and Human Services has temporarily paused its OTC COVID Rapid Antigen **Test Kits** for schools. It anticipates being able to release test kits on or after May 23. Schools may continue to [order](#) test kits, however the orders will be held until that time. If there is an urgent need for additional testing beyond what is being provided with the Binax distribution, facilities may reach out to dhhs.epr@dhhs.nh.gov for possible alternatives. Schools with a CLIA Waiver are still able to request test kits [here](#).
- NHED's Office of Social and Emotional Wellness (OSEW) is raising awareness about **Mental Health Awareness Month** in May. Each Monday during the month of May, OSEW will be releasing a post on social media related to a mental health topic. Topics will include: Addressing Sadness (May 2), Prioritizing Wellness (May 9), Preventing Bullying and Cyberbullying (May 16), Destigmatizing Mental Illness (May 23) and Support Grief (May 30). Each week's post will contain a fact, tip, activity and resource related to the topic. Be sure to follow OSEW's posts on the [Bureau of Student Wellness & Nutrition's Facebook page](#) and [Twitter](#) account, and [NHED on Facebook](#).
- The Squam Lakes Association is providing **grants** to New Hampshire schools and non-profit organizations to offer students hands-on, experiential, outdoor field trip/learning opportunities. While working to support experiences that involve

observation and exploration in nature, the grants may be used to cover transportation costs, student entry and program fees, or to support the purchase of equipment to help with outdoor experiences. Grants ranging from \$200 to \$2,000 are available. Apply [here](#).

- Two alternative sessions of the annual **i4see End of Year Training** will be held via Zoom from 10 a.m. to 1 p.m. on [May 17](#) and from 10 a.m. to 1 p.m. on [May 18](#). The training will cover specifics related to i4see submissions due as part of the end of year collection, including the EOY enrollment submission. Both sessions will cover the same material.
- **Grants Management System (GMS)** was recently updated with two new features – zero monthly report auto approval and auto return of grants. When a monthly report is submitted and there are no expenses, the \$0 report will automatically be approved. The system will record auto-approval, and grants managers will be free to complete the next month's report without delay. Final reports will continue to be reviewed and approved at NHED. LEAs will have access to edit grants as needed, which is available for all grants that are up-to-date with monthly reporting. If monthly reports are not up-to-date, LEAs will still be able to request the grant be returned for editing.
- NHED is wrapping up its **iPlatform training** sessions with a specialized webinar for school counselors at 3:15 p.m. on May 3. The webinar date for English Language Educators *has been rescheduled* to 3:30 p.m. on May 19. [Registration](#) is now open.
- NHED's **YES! scholarship program** is designed to help families and residents whose education was negatively impacted by the COVID-19 pandemic by awarding \$1,000 scholarships to New Hampshire students. The scholarships may be used for tutoring provided by [certified NH educators](#), as well as special education therapies and services provided by certified NH special education teachers or licensed therapists. To apply, visit [Yes Every Student](#).
- Waterford Upstart is an at-home, **early learning program** that helps children build reading skills before kindergarten so they can be confident in the classroom on day one. NHED is partnering with Waterford to offer these services at no cost. Please share these registration links with parents for the [fall program](#) and [summer program](#). Webinars designed for parents and caregivers are also taking place at 6:30 p.m. on [May 11](#) and 5:30 p.m. [May 16](#). Here is a [sample letter](#) for districts to distribute to parents with children preparing to enter kindergarten.
- Seacoast United is collaborating with NH Employment Security to host a statewide **virtual job fair** on May 4. The free event allows every high school student across the state to log in that day and speak with a company about employment opportunities

for the summer. To register as a job seeker or as an employer, visit [Summer Jobs For Students](#).

- NHED is partnering with NH camps and school-age summer programs across the state to offer its **ReKindling Curiosity summer camp** initiative. [Here is a handout](#) flyer with detailed information on the program, which we encourage schools to share with their families. The state-operated summer enrichment program will pay up to \$650 of the youth recreation camp fees for qualifying students.

NHED Discretionary Grants

- NH School Safe: Threat Assessment Grant (accepting applications on a rolling basis): <https://www.education.nh.gov/who-we-are/division-of-learner-support/bureau-of-student-wellness/osew/grants>
- Expanded Adult Diploma Program Credit Options Grant (accepting applications on a rolling basis): <https://www.education.nh.gov/sites/g/files/ehbemt326/files/inline-documents/sonh/adulted-rfa-expanding-credits.pdf>
- Adult Education Technology Grant (accepting applications on a rolling basis): <https://www.education.nh.gov/sites/g/files/ehbemt326/files/inline-documents/sonh/adulted-rfa-technology.pdf>
- Adult Diploma Program Website Development/Improvement Grant (accepting applications on a rolling basis): <https://www.education.nh.gov/sites/g/files/ehbemt326/files/inline-documents/sonh/adulted-website-adp.pdf>
- Adult Education & Literacy Program Website Development/Improvement Grant (accepting applications on a rolling basis): <https://www.education.nh.gov/sites/g/files/ehbemt326/files/inline-documents/sonh/adulted-website-ael.pdf>

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