



New Hampshire

# Department of Education

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-2022-003

Posted: August 2022

Application Due Date: September 23, 2022



NH Department of Education

**Bureau of  
Student Wellness  
& Nutrition**



New Hampshire

**Department of Education**

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## Section 1: Project Overview & Schedule

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### A. Executive Summary

The Promising Futures for NH project is a partnership between New Hampshire Department of Education Bureau of Student Wellness and Nutrition (NH ED BSWN), the NH Department of Health and Human Services Bureau for Drug and Alcohol Services. This project will provide financial support to NH Local Education Agencies (LEAs) to advance the development and expansion of strategic substance misuse prevention strategies and interventions, as well as other universal prevention strategies.

Selected LEAs will attend a foundational training that will include didactic elements and will provide participants opportunities for reflection, skill building, and action planning.

The training is designed to provide staff in all roles with an introduction to the central tenets of Multi-Tiered Systems of Support for Behavioral Health and Wellness (MTSS-B). Participants will understand the importance of the development of protective factors and the elimination and mitigation of risk factors for substance misuse and abuse.

Through participation in the Promising Futures for NH project, local districts and schools can expect:

- To implement or expand a universal prevention strategy for substance misuse and abuse
- To explore Multi-Tiered Systems of Support for Behavioral Health and Wellness (MTSS-B)
- To participate in preliminary planning for MTSS-B

Areas of focus include:

- Implementation of universal strategies for prevention of substance misuse and abuse
- Identification and enhancement of existing protective factors
- Exploration of Multi-Tiered Systems of Support for Behavioral Health and Wellness (MTSS-B)
- Creation of strategic relationships
- Identification and analysis of community needs

### B. 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
Anticipated Funding Opportunity Announcement Posting	08/25/2022	4:00 PM
Applicant Inquiry Period Ends ( <i>applicants can ask questions re: this FOA</i> )	09/09/2022	4:00 PM
Agency Responses to Applicant Inquiries ( <i>applicants can expect reply to FOA queries</i> )	09/16/2022	4:00 PM
Application Deadline	09/23/2022	4:00 PM
Anticipated Grant Award Notification and Grants Management System Allocation	10/14/2022	4:00 PM
LEA Budget Preparation in Grants Management System Deadline	10/28/2022	4:00 PM
Project Period	September 30, 2022 - May 30, 2023.	
Baseline Data Due	01/13/2023	4:00 PM
Interim Report Due	03/17/2023	4:00 PM
Final Reporting, Expenditures, and Supporting Documentation Due	06/16/2023	4:00 PM

## Section 2: Description of Agency & Eligible Applicants

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### A. Description of Agency

The Promising Futures for NH project is a partnership between New Hampshire Department of Education Bureau of Student Wellness and Nutrition (NH ED), and the NH Department of Health and Human Services Bureau for Drug and Alcohol Services.

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.

### B. Eligible Applicants

Any New Hampshire Local Education Agency (LEA), including traditional public schools and Public Chartered Schools, is eligible to apply with the endorsement of their Superintendent or its governing body.

While the LEA serves as the applicant, the scope of the work proposed need not be district-wide. 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.

MTSS-B is a community-driven preventative framework and process for aligning a continuum of supports. Within MTSS-B, participating communities mobilize people to collect and analyze data, make a data-driven strategic plan, and implement and evaluate evidence-based strategies to support the behavioral health and wellness of all students (universal), those with slightly elevated needs (targeted), and those experiencing the most challenges (intensive).

MTSS-B is a culturally competent approach that is family- and youth-driven. [MTSS-B Technical Assistance Center in New Hampshire \(nhmtssb.org\)](https://nhmtssb.org)

Applicants must have demonstrated a commitment to support the exploration of Multi-Tiered Systems of Support for Behavioral Health and Wellness (MTSS-B). If applicable, the most recent Enhanced Tiered Fidelity Inventory (eTFI) or the NH MTSS-B Fidelity Inventory (NH-MFI) may be submitted to demonstrate commitment.

## Section 3: Project Design

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### A. 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 support a universal population and/or provide preventative strategies, with at least one strategy targeting substance misuse prevention.
4. Applicants must name a District Project Manager who will oversee MTSS-B Exploration and Implementation of a universal prevention strategy.
5. 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 virtual tool to build youth protective factors \(https://nextstepgoodlife.com/\)](https://nextstepgoodlife.com/), in their action plan.

Additional allowable activities and expenses include:

- Supplies to support universal prevention strategies/programs for substance misuse and abuse
- 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.)

### B. Scope of Work

Successful applicants will:

- Formulate a written, data-driven action plan that outlines 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.

Additional focus areas could include:

- 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
- Youth Mental Health First Aid
- The Campus Radio Initiative
- Crisis Prevention Intervention (CPI)
- L.E.A.D.
- D.A.R.E.
- Choose Love
- 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

### C. Performance Period and Number of Districts Selected

The New Hampshire Department of Education, Office of Social & Emotional Wellness expects a minimum of 3 districts to participate in the Promising Futures for NH project, pending availability of funding. The performance period runs through May 30, 2023.

Selected districts will receive technical assistance and support as they move through the exploration, installation and initial stages of implementation of the funded project. Upon full implementation, districts may elect to receive MTSS-B consultation and technical assistance beyond the life of the project, as capacity allows.

Applicants will be prepared to begin training and implementation upon award in Fall/Winter 2022.

## Section 4: Application Content and Scoring Criteria

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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
- Administrator(s) signature(s) indicating commitment to participate in and support the Promising Futures for NH project and initiatives (Appendix G) – 5 points

If applicable, please submit the most recent Enhanced Tiered Fidelity Inventory (TFI) or NH MTSS-B Fidelity Inventory (NH-MFI) for your District/Schools to demonstrate commitment to MTSS-B.

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

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*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 Named Person Above	
Phone Number	
Email Address	
Superintendent Name	
District Project Manager /MTSS-B internal Coach	
Phone number	
Email Address	
Collaborative Community Partner(s)	

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

*Appendix B: Project Implementation and Evaluation Plan*

In the spaces provided below, please describe in detail the activities proposed within this award. Successful applicants will demonstrate: a plan for increased universal prevention strategies; a connection to long-term prevention efforts, including multi-year plans and systems development and integration; a plan to effectively evaluate outcomes; and connections to other community efforts. (30 points)

Project Implementation Summary:

GoodLife app Implementation Plan (for applicants applying for funding in middle and high schools):

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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The applicant must have a clear understanding of both the protective and risk factors that promote or prevent resiliency in children and youth within their schools and community. The applicant must also be able to identify the gaps in programs, infrastructure, services and available resources. The applicant must use both quantitative and qualitative data to discuss the need for universal prevention programming in their schools and community.

Please discuss your community's needs and gaps at both the population and program level. The data may be derived from the Youth Risk Behavior Survey (YRBS), Office Discipline Referrals (ODRs), free and reduced lunch, etc. (20 points)

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

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The applicant must assess the fit of their selected substance misuse and abuse universal prevention strategies within their district and community systems, culture, and environment. district-. Community engagement with students, families, educators, child-serving organizations, municipalities, etc. is central to maximizing efforts, ensuring long-term sustainability, and fostering positive outcomes for children and youth. (25 points total)

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

Please describe how your school district utilizes a whole-school, multi-tiered framework to address social and emotional wellness, including the prevention of risky behaviors, including substance misuse, and the promotion of protective factors amongst the student body. (5 points)

Please describe how your school district empowers student voice within the whole-school, multi-tiered framework. 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 within the whole-school, multi-tiered framework. Identify ways that family voice will be used to address and support the proposal outlined in this application. (5 points)

A best practice within MTSS-B implementation includes the development of a robust District-Community Leadership Team that guides the comprehensive, short- and long-term planning for a system of care for student wellness.

Please describe how your school district interfaces with the broader community and other child-serving organizations within the whole-school, multi-tiered framework. 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*

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Capacity to engage in and support the proposed project implementation will be key to success. Please describe the plan to obtain buy-in from all relevant stakeholders, including students, families, educators, and community members. Also, describe your existing communications strategy and ability to share information about this project throughout 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 <i>(stipends not to exceed 20% of award)</i>			
(1)			\$
Benefits			
(1)			\$
Supplies			
(1)			\$
Contractual			
(1)			\$
<b>TOTAL REQUEST</b>			<b>\$</b>

*Appendix G: Administrative Commitment*

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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 H: Directions for Application Submission*

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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:

Jen Doris, Administrator  
Office of Social and Emotional Wellness  
NH Department of Education  
101 Pleasant Street, Concord NH 03301  
Jennifer.F.Doris@doe.nh.gov  
(603) 573-1479

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