

September 14, 2020

Erin Shackel
Office of Elementary and Secondary Education
U.S. Department of Education
400 Maryland Ave., SW, 3W111
Washington, DC 20202

Dear Ms. Shackel:

I write in support of the New Hampshire Department of Education's (NH DOE) application for a Out-of-School Time Career Pathway Program Grant from the United States Department of Education.

New Hampshire is poised to lead the country in the innovative economic growth that will define the 21st century, and in order to ensure that our economy continues to grow and our businesses can thrive, we must work to develop an even stronger workforce.

The grant funding would allow the NH DOE to provide models of how districts can work with employers to provide work-based learning opportunities, building upon the state's competency-based education, extended learning opportunities, Future Learning Pathways Project, Career and Technical Education, and work-study practice efforts. In addition, the funding will expand existing career competencies and efforts in career awareness, exploration, experiences and build the capacity of districts to train students to be remote workers. These efforts ensure that all students have access to work-based learning experiences, particularly in in-demand careers and Science Technology Engineering and Mathematics related industries to prepare for their future and support our economy.

By collaborating with the New Hampshire Learning Initiative, Jobs for the Future, Gallup, State Education Agencies, and local businesses, NH DOE will play a critical role in these efforts providing students with diverse opportunities and connecting them with potential employers. I urge you to look favorably upon their application. Please do not hesitate to contact Brittany Matthews in my office at (202) 224-3324 if we can be of further assistance.

With every good wish,

Margaret Wood Hassan
United States Senator