



Frank Edelblut  
Commissioner

Christine M. Brennan  
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STATE OF NEW HAMPSHIRE  
DEPARTMENT OF EDUCATION  
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Concord, N.H. 03301  
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March 20, 2019

His Excellency, Governor Christopher T. Sununu  
and the Honorable Council  
State House  
Concord, New Hampshire 03301

**REQUESTED ACTION**

Authorize the New Hampshire Department of Education (NHDOE), Bureau of Student Support to enter into a cooperative project agreement with Plymouth State University (PSU), Plymouth NH (vendor code 177866) in an amount not to exceed \$30,000.00 to improve the social emotional outcomes of young children by infusing the evidence-based practices of the Pyramid Model Framework in pre-service early childhood teacher preparation programs, effective for the period July 1, 2019 through June 30, 2021, or upon Governor and Council approval whichever is later, with an option to renew for one additional year. 100% Federal Funds.

Funds to support this request are anticipated to be available in the account titled State Professional Development in Fiscal Years 2020 & 2021, upon the availability and continued appropriation of funds in the future operating budget, with the ability to adjust encumbrances between Fiscal Years through the Budget Office without further Governor and Council approval, if needed and justified:

	<u>FY2020</u>	<u>FY2021</u>
06-056-056-562010-25060000-072-509073 Contracts for Program Services	\$16,000	\$14,000

**EXPLANATION**

The purpose of this cooperative project agreement is to expand upon the needed knowledge, skills and experience of early childhood degree faculty members to teach coursework related to the implementation of evidence-based practices in the Pyramid Model Framework. The intent is to support the preparation of New Hampshire's pre-service early childhood educators with the knowledge and skills needed to implement the evidence-based strategies of the Pyramid Model Framework to improve the social emotional outcomes of young children ages birth to five years old including those with disabilities.

A Request for Proposals (RFP) "iSocial: Pyramid Model Framework Infusion/Implementation in New Hampshire Institutions of Higher Education Teacher Preparation Programs" was advertised in the Manchester Union Leader October 22nd, October 23rd and October 24th, 2018 and posted to the NHDOE website. TWO (2) proposals were received by the deadline of November 30, 2018, Plymouth State University & Granite State College. The NHDOE plans to award contracts to both Institutions of Higher Education (IHE) to meet grant requirements.

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A review committee consisting of Ruth Littlefield, Education Consultant, Bureau of Student Support, Christina MacDonald, Education Consultant, Bureau of Student Support, Krisha Dubreil, NH DHHS Bureau of Child Development and Head Start Collaboration Early Childhood Master Professional Training Specialist and Lara Quiroga, M.Ed, Director of Strategic Initiatives for Children, Manchester Community Health Center at Child Health Services reviewed the proposals and are recommending both IHEs for funding.

PSU will conduct a review of their teacher preparation coursework and develop and implement an action plan for improving program curriculum that includes embedding the Pyramid Model Framework and other evidence-based practices. This will provide pre-service teachers with the knowledge and skills needed to enter the workforce prepared to improve the social emotional outcomes of young children ages birth to five years old including those with disabilities. PSU will also collaborate with other New Hampshire IHEs to promote expansion of the needed knowledge, skills and experience of early childhood degree faculty members to teach coursework related to the implementation of evidence-based practices in the Pyramid Model Framework.

The Office of Special Education Programs at the United State Department of Education requires a comprehensive evaluation detailed within the grant that measures the short-term, intermediate and long-term outcomes and impacts of the grant incentives. The evaluation assesses the degree to which the NH State Personnel Development Grant meets its goals and objectives, as well as the established federal performance goals and objectives. The evaluation will be ongoing and formative to provide for data-based decision making and planning mid-course corrections.

In the event that the Federal Funds become no longer available, General Funds will not be requested to support this program.

Respectfully submitted,



Frank Edelblut  
Commissioner of Education

FE:PFD

Enclosures

## Attachment A

### *iSocial: Pyramid Model Framework Infusion/Implementation in New Hampshire Institutions of Higher Education Teacher Preparation Programs*

#### Proposal Criteria in the RFP

Significance of Proposal	25 points
Quality of Services	35 points
Content knowledge	20 points
Budget Completion and Relevance	20 points
Possible Points:	100 points

Two (2) Proposals were received:

1. **Plymouth State University**
2. **Granite State College**

#### **Plymouth State University**

Krishna Dubreil	Ruth Littlefield	Christina MacDonald	Lara Quiroga	<u>Peer Review</u>
<u>Score</u>	<u>Score</u>	<u>Score</u>	<u>Score</u>	<b>90.25</b>
<b>90</b>	<b>91</b>	<b>90</b>	<b>90</b>	

#### **Granite State College**

Krishna Dubreil	Ruth Littlefield	Christina MacDonald	Lara Quiroga	<u>Peer Review</u>
<u>Score</u>	<u>Score</u>	<u>Score</u>	<u>Score</u>	<b>81.25</b>
<b>82</b>	<b>78</b>	<b>85</b>	<b>80</b>	

*(average is different than the combined score)*

An RFP review occurred on Wednesday, December 19, 2018. The RFP review panel consisted of the following:

#### Krishna Dubreil

Krishna Dubreil, NH DHHS Bureau of Child Development and Head Start Collaboration Early Childhood Master Professional Training Specialist. Krisha oversees the PTAN grant which supports the IHE Early Childhood Round Table and Task Force. She is a member of the iSocial SLT and the Pyramid Model SLT (and co-leads the Implementation and Demonstration work group of the PM SLT).

#### Christina MacDonald

Christina MacDonald, NH Department of Education, Education Consultant, iSocial Evaluation Coordinator – In her role as Education Consultant, she is the SSIP lead for data and evaluation as

well as the project coordinator for the Bureau of Student Support's key data systems. She serves as the Evaluation Coordinator for iSocial and leads the iSocial Evaluation and Data Team as well as serving on the iSocial State Leadership Team.

Ruth Littlefield

Ruth Littlefield, NH Department of Education, Preschool Special Education Consultant - In her role in the New Hampshire Department of Education, Ruth coordinates the State Systemic Improvement Plan which focuses on improving social and emotional outcomes for preschool children with disabilities. Ruth is also the Co-Lead of the Pyramid Model State Leadership Team.

Lara Quiroga

Lara Quiroga, M.Ed. Director of Strategic Initiatives for Children, Manchester Community Health Center at Child Health Services. Lara is on the Core Team for the PM SLT. She was the Project LAUNCH Local Program Director in Manchester and has continued to receive funding for activities subsequent to the end of that grant. Project Launch was a quasi-experimental study that implemented the Pyramid Model in the Manchester area.

COOPERATIVE PROJECT AGREEMENT

between the

STATE OF NEW HAMPSHIRE, Department of Education

and the

Plymouth State University of the UNIVERSITY SYSTEM OF NEW HAMPSHIRE

A. This Cooperative Project Agreement (hereinafter "Project Agreement") is entered into by the State of New Hampshire, Department of Education, (hereinafter "State"), Department of Education and the University System of New Hampshire, acting through Plymouth State University, (hereinafter "Campus"), for the purpose of undertaking a project of mutual interest. This Cooperative Project shall be carried out under the terms and conditions of the Master Agreement for Cooperative Projects between the State of New Hampshire and the University System of New Hampshire dated November 13, 2002, except as may be modified herein.

B. This Project Agreement and all obligations of the parties hereunder shall become effective on the date the Governor and Executive Council of the State of New Hampshire approve this Project Agreement ("Effective date") and shall end on 6/30/2021. If the provision of services by Campus precedes the Effective date, all services performed by Campus shall be performed at the sole risk of Campus and in the event that this Project Agreement does not become effective, State shall be under no obligation to pay Campus for costs incurred or services performed; however, if this Project Agreement becomes effective, all costs incurred prior to the Effective date that would otherwise be allowable shall be paid under the terms of this Project Agreement.

C. The work to be performed under the terms of this Project Agreement is described in the proposal identified below and attached to this document as Exhibit A, the content of which is incorporated herein as a part of this Project Agreement.

Project Title: iSocial: Pyramid Model Framework Infusion/Implementation in New Hampshire Institutions of Higher Education Teacher Preparation Programs

D. The following individuals are designated as Project Administrators. These Project Administrators shall be responsible for the business aspects of this Project Agreement and all invoices, payments, project amendments and related correspondence shall be directed to the individuals so designated.

<u>State Project Administrator</u>	<u>Campus Project Administrator</u>
Name: Santina Thibedeau	Name: Andrew Ines
Address: NH Department of Education 101 Pleasant Street Concord, NH 03301	Address: Plymouth State University 17 High Street Plymouth, NH 03264
Phone: 603-271-6693	Phone: 603-535-3233

E. The Following Individuals are designated as Project Directors. These Project Directors shall be responsible for the technical leadership and conduct of the project. All progress reports, completion reports and related correspondence shall be directed to the individuals so designated.

<u>State Project Director</u>	<u>Campus Project Director</u>
Name: Amy Aiello	Name: Patricia Cantor
Address: NH Department of Education 101 Pleasant Street Concord, NH 03301	Address: Plymouth State University 17 High Street Plymouth, NH 03264
Phone: 603-271-1536	Phone: 603-535-2381

Campus Authorized Official AI  
Date 3/19/19

F. Total State funds in the amount of \$30,000.00 have been allotted and are available for payment of allowable costs incurred under this Project Agreement. State will not reimburse Campus for costs exceeding the amount specified in this paragraph.

Check if applicable

Campus will cost-share % of total costs during the term of this Project Agreement.

Federal funds paid to Campus under this Project Agreement are from Grant/Contract/Cooperative Agreement No. H323A170029-18 from 10/01/2017 under CFDA# 84.323A. Federal regulations required to be passed through to Campus as part of this Project Agreement, and in accordance with the Master Agreement for Cooperative Projects between the State of New Hampshire and the University System of New Hampshire dated November 13, 2002, are attached to this document as Exhibit B, the content of which is incorporated herein as a part of this Project Agreement.

G. Check if applicable

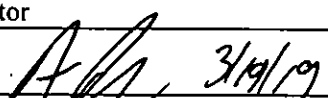
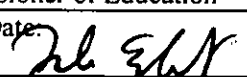
Article(s) of the Master Agreement for Cooperative Projects between the State of New Hampshire and the University System of New Hampshire dated November 13, 2002 is/are hereby amended to read:

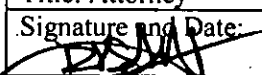
H.  State has chosen **not to take possession** of equipment purchased under this Agreement.

State has chosen to **take possession** of equipment purchased under this Project Agreement and will issue instructions for the disposition of such equipment within 90 days of the Project Agreement's end-date. Any expenses incurred by Campus in carrying out State's requested disposition will be fully reimbursed by State.

This Project Agreement and the Master Agreement constitute the entire agreement between State and Campus regarding this Cooperative Project, and supersede and replace any previously existing arrangements, oral or written; all changes herein must be made by written amendment and executed for the parties by their authorized officials.

IN WITNESS WHEREOF, the University System of New Hampshire, acting through the Plymouth State University and the State of New Hampshire, **Department of Education** have executed this Project Agreement.

<b>By An Authorized Official of:</b>	<b>By An Authorized Official of:</b>
Plymouth State University	<b>Department of Education</b>
Name: Andrew Ines	Name: Frank Edelblut
Title: Interim Director	Title: Commissioner of Education
Signature and Date:  3/19/19	Signature and Date:  3-26-19

<b>By An Authorized Official of:</b>	<b>By An Authorized Official of:</b>
The New Hampshire Office of the Attorney General	The New Hampshire Governor & Executive Council
Name: Richard Sala	Name:
Title: Attorney	Title:
Signature and Date:  4/1/19	Signature and Date:

Campus Authorized Official AI  
Date 3/19/19

EXHIBIT A

**A. Project Title:** iSocial: Pyramid Model Framework Infusion/Implementation in New Hampshire Institutions of Higher Education Teacher Preparation Programs

**B. Project Period:** July 1, 2019 to June 30, 2021

**C. Objectives:** To expand upon the needed knowledge, skills and experience of early childhood degree faculty members to teach coursework related to the implementation of evidence-based practices in the Pyramid Model Framework. The intent is for pre-service students to leave early childhood teacher preparation programs with the knowledge and skills to implement Pyramid Model practices to improve the social emotional outcomes of young children ages birth to five years old including those with disabilities.

**D. Scope of Work:** Plymouth State University (PSU) (vendor code 177866) shall provide

- Conduct an initial needs assessment (program review) of their teacher preparation coursework.
- Develop an action plan for improving program curriculum that includes embedding Pyramid Model Framework and related evidence-based practices.
- Implement program improvements aligned with approved action plan.
- Ensure key faculty are available to participate in Pyramid Model trainings offered by the Department as appropriate.
- Collect data and report on progress, including action plan implementation, syllabi changes, assignments created, challenges faced and other evidence of improvement.
- Collaborate with other New Hampshire IHEs to promote expansion of the needed knowledge, skills and experience of early childhood degree faculty members to teach coursework related to the implementation of evidence-based practices in the Pyramid Model Framework.
- Participate in the existing New Hampshire IHE Task Force to promote the infusion of evidence-based Pyramid Model Framework practices.
- Attend quarterly IHE collaboration meetings coordinated by the New Hampshire Department of Education.
- Provide written reports of activities on an as needed basis.
- Participate in State level meetings such as: iSocial State Leadership Team (monthly) ,iSocial Evaluation Team (quarterly)
- Attend the National Training Institute on Effective Practices (NTI) Conference (<http://nti.cbcs.usf.edu/>) annually to acquire knowledge and skills that inform New Hampshire's implementation of practice-based coaching and the Pyramid Model Framework.
- Contribute resources to the project website.
- Support the dissemination of project information by delivering sessions at state, regional and/or national events as appropriate.

**E. Deliverables Schedule:**

Oct. 30, 2019	Submit initial needs assessment of program/coursework to NHDOE
Dec. 30, 2019	Submit completed action plan based on needs assessment
Dec. 2019 -Jun. 2021	Implement program improvements, aligned with approved action plan, submit Quarterly Reports on implementation progress and share collected data
Jul. 2020 - Jun. 2021	Deliver session(s) at state, regional and/or national events

Campus Authorized Official AE

Date 3/19/19

**F. Budget and Invoicing Instructions:**

FY 2020 July 1, 2019 - June 30, 2020	
Salaries	\$4625.00
Benefits	\$389.00
Travel	\$7,735.00
Materials & Supplies	\$628.00
Indirect Costs	\$2623.00
TOTAL	\$16,000.00

FY 2021 July 1, 2020 - June 30, 2021	
Salaries	\$2831.00
Benefits	\$1197.00
Travel	\$6000.00
Materials & Supplies	\$2367.00
Indirect Costs	\$1605.00
TOTAL	\$14,000.00

**Submit Invoices and Reports to:**

Penny Duffy Grants & Contracts Technician  
NH Department of Education  
101 Pleasant Street  
Concord, NH 03301

G. The department will exercise the option to renew for 1 additional fiscal year if services are determined to be satisfactory and funds are available with Governor and Council approval.

Funding Source: 100% Federal Funds

**EXHIBIT B**

This Project Agreement is funded under a Grant/Contract/Cooperative Agreement to State from the Federal sponsor specified in Project Agreement article F. All applicable requirements, regulations, provisions, terms and conditions of this Federal Grant/Contract/Cooperative Agreement are hereby adopted in full force and effect to the relationship between State and Campus, except that wherever such requirements, regulations, provisions and terms and conditions differ for INSTITUTIONS OF HIGHER EDUCATION, the appropriate requirements should be substituted (e.g., OMB Circulars A-21 and A-110, rather than OMB Circulars A-87 and A-102 (currently 2 CFR Part 200 - UNIFORM ADMINISTRATIVE REQUIREMENTS, COST PRINCIPLES, AND AUDIT REQUIREMENTS FOR FEDERAL AWARDS)). References to Contractor or Recipient in the Federal language will be taken to mean Campus; references to the Government or Federal Awarding Agency will be taken to mean Government/Federal Awarding Agency or State or both, as appropriate.

Special Federal provisions are listed here:  None or Click here to enter text..

Campus Authorized Official

Date

AI  
3/19/19