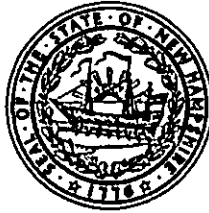


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Frank Edelblut
Commissioner

Christine M. Brennan
Deputy Commissioner

STATE OF NEW HAMPSHIRE
DEPARTMENT OF EDUCATION
101 Pleasant Street
Concord, N.H. 03301
TEL. (603) 271-3495
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September 4, 2020

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

REQUESTED ACTION

Pursuant to MOP 1200, I. D., authorize the Department of Education to pay the FY 21 Technical Issues in Large Scale Assessment (TILSA) membership dues to the Council of Chief State School Officers (CCSSO), Washington, DC, (vendor code 170715), in an amount not to exceed \$11,000.00, effective upon Governor and Council approval through June 30, 2021. 100 % Federal Funds

Funds are available in the account Assessment-Federal as follows:

	<u>FY21</u>
06-56-56-562010-25340000-026-500251 Membership Fees	\$11,000.00

EXPLANATION

The Council of Chief State School Officers (CCSSO) is a nonpartisan, nationwide, nonprofit organization of public officials who head departments of elementary and secondary education in the U.S. states, the District of Columbia, the Department of Defense Education Activity, the Bureau of Indian Education, and five U.S. territories. CCSSO provides leadership, advocacy, and technical assistance on major educational issues. The Council seeks member consensus and expresses its views to civic and professional organizations, federal agencies, Congress and the public.

The Administrator for Academics and Assessment is an active member of CCSSO. Participation provides the State of New Hampshire with direct support services and professional development activities focused on solving the technical issues of implementing, developing, and maintaining large scale assessment programs.

Listed below are answers to standard questions required for Governor and Council organization dues and membership approval submissions:

1. How long has this organization been in existence and how long has this agency been a member of this organization?

The Council of Chief State School Officers (CCSSO) was formed in 1927 and incorporated in 1948. New Hampshire has paid into membership since 1948.

2. Is there any other organization which provides the same or similar benefits which your agency belongs to?

No.

3. How many other states belong to this organization and is your agency the sole New Hampshire agency that is a member?

The TILSA Collaborative includes both state assessment leaders from all states and partners from many assessment related organizations. The New Hampshire Department of Education is the sole state agency within New Hampshire eligible for membership.

4. How is the dues structure established? (Standard fee for all states, based on population, based on other criteria, etc.)

There is a standard fee for each collaborative of CCSSO. One collaborative membership is \$11,000. This rate applies to a collaborative membership for 1 person.

5. What benefit does the state receive from participating in this membership?

TILSA will provide technical assistance related to the federal and state assessment and accountability system. In the face of this global pandemic, the TILSA collaborative will support states in the development and sharing of resources related to the implications of COVID-19 on assessment. Large scale assessment programs can have enormous impacts on every student, and we will need their expertise and support. This will include addressing fundamental issues in educational assessment, particularly validity and validation, fairness and applications of principled assessment design. Access to latest research to inform policy making will be included.

Meetings will be held in person when possible and travel is included in membership.

6. Are training or educational/research materials included in the membership? If so, is the cost included? Explain in detail.

All training materials and research are provided for dissemination to educators in the state at no charge. Professional development is delivered via calls, in-person trainings and webinars. Research materials are disseminated at meetings, via an E-newsletter, and an on-line community containing a resource library of tools.

7. Is the membership required to receive any federal grants or required in order to receive or participate in licensing or certification exams? Explain.

No, it is not required but the work that this collaborative does directly supports our ability to properly administer our ESSA federal accountability and required assessment system to ensure we are in compliance and can continue to receive the federal funding associated with ESSA.

8. Is there any travel included with this membership fee? Explain in detail any travel to include the number of employees involved, the number of trips, destination if known, and purposes of membership supported trips.

Yes. Membership dues cover travel (including flights, hotel accommodations, and per diem expenses) for the Administrator. The meetings this year will be held in person when possible and virtually when necessary. The meeting dates for this program year are October 21-22, 2020 (TBD); February 23-24, 2021 (Jacksonville, FL) and June 24-25, 2021 (Minneapolis, MN).

9. Which state agency employees are directly involved with this organization? (Indicate if they are members, voting members, committee members, and/or officers of the organization.)

The Commissioner of Education is a voting member of the organization. The Deputy Commissioner, state education agency federal liaison, and state education agency communications directors also receive direct support as part of other memberships. The TILSA collaborative membership would allow the Administrator for Academics & Assessment to be involved with the organization.

10. Explain in detail any negative impact to the State if the Agency did not belong to this organization.

The Department would not have the technical assistance needed to support our assessment and accountability system to ensure that our policy decisions are in alignment with other states, comply with federal law, and that our system meets the needs of all students in NH and addresses issues of educational access and inequity. This is especially crucial this year, when the pandemic has required states make "on the ground" changes immediately. TILSA will also give the Department access to the research efforts and analysis of federal legislation to help inform our policies and procedures.

Respectfully submitted,



Frank Edelblut
Commissioner of Education



Remit Payment To
Council of Chief State School Officers
One Massachusetts Ave, NW
Suite 700
Washington, DC 20001

New Hampshire Department of Education
101 Pleasant St Rm 2
Concord, NH 03301
(603) 271-3855

Contact: **Melissa White**

PO Number:

Description	Terms of Service	Qty	Price	Amount
TILSA – 1 Rep FY21	Upon receipt of payment - 06/30/2021	1	\$11,000.00	\$11,000.00

FEIN: 53-0198090

Total: \$11,000.00

Amount Enclosed: _____