



Frank Edelblut
Commissioner

Christine M. Brennan
Deputy Commissioner

STATE OF NEW HAMPSHIRE
DEPARTMENT OF EDUCATION
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June 28, 2022

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

REQUESTED ACTION

Authorize the Department of Education, to enter into an educational tuition agreement and pay said costs in the amount of \$3,000 as follows:

Institution:	Emporia State University 1 Kellogg Cir, Emporia, KS 66801 Online Learning
Course Title(s):	Career Counseling and Development and Group Process in Counseling
Course Date(s):	8/22/2022 - 12/09/2022
Employee Name and Classification:	Rhianne Dube Vocational Rehabilitation Counselor I, Student Transition Specialist
Vendor Code:	# 177752
Funding Source:	06-56-56-565010-25380000-066-500543
Total Cost of Courses:	\$3,077.58
State Share:	\$3,000.00
Source of Funds:	100% Federal

EXPLANATION

Mrs. Dube has been employed by the Department of Education, Bureau of Vocational Rehabilitation for 3 years 8 months and is currently a Vocational Rehabilitation Counselor I, Student Transition Specialist based out of the Berlin Regional Office. The Career Counseling and Development and Group Process in Counseling, will benefit the Department and the employee by increasing Mrs. Dube's knowledge, understanding and skills for working with multicultural populations and gain a better understanding of strategies for working with groups. These classes are needed to advance to a Vocational Rehabilitation

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Counselor II. These classes are beneficial to Mrs. Dube, will foster her professional skills and knowledge as a Vocational Rehabilitation Counselor to provide Pre-Employment transition services to eligible and potentially eligible youth ages 14-21 at the Vocational Rehabilitation Counselor II level.

The Career Counseling and Development course is an introduction to career counseling with various types of clientele. The theoretical emphasis is on the development aspects of career decision making from childhood through adulthood. Attention is given to various information sources and techniques for counselors to use in assisting clients with appropriate approaches to decision making.

The Process and Counseling course provides an understanding of group dynamics, stages of group development, group leadership styles, group counseling methods and skills and presents group process theories. All which are methods applicable in an all-group counseling setting. Specifically, this course is designed to provide experiential techniques and intervention strategies essential for counselors treating mental disorders in therapeutic groups in mental health settings. Additionally, this course provides students the opportunity to participate in brief counseling groups facilitated by the professor during which techniques and interventions reflecting various group counseling theorists and group processes are implemented.

As a Vocational Rehabilitation Counselor I, Student Transition Specialist, duties include: Providing the required Pre-Employment Transition Services (Pre-ETS) to students in need of such services who are currently eligible or potentially eligible for VR New Hampshire (VRNH) services. Developing and maintaining local relationships with schools, Special Education, students and parents and guardians in working to coordinate services. Developing and modifying program and workshop curriculum that provides Pre-Employment Transition information and resources to students with disabilities including job exploration counseling, work-based learning experiences and counseling regarding post-secondary options, workplace readiness training and instruction in self-advocacy. Managing a potentially eligible caseload, maintaining records of student participation and identifying/analyzing regional transition opportunities to ensure program goals are met. Providing an overview and explanation of VR process, receiving referrals from interested students and communicating with the appropriate regional office to assure prompt processing of the referrals. Providing individualized Pre-ETS services to VRNH participants, when appropriate.

The Department of Education encourages and supports employees who wish to further their professional growth through continuing education in disciplines that are mutually advantageous. Successful completion of the program will add to the overall strength of the Department to perform its mission to the residents of New Hampshire.

This course will not be taken on State time.

Attached is a fully executed Tuition Agreement for your review.

Respectfully Submitted,



Frank Edelblut
Commissioner of Education



THE STATE OF NEW HAMPSHIRE
EDUCATIONAL TUITION AGREEMENT
DEPARTMENT OF EDUCATION

Agreement dated this 24 day of May 2022 by and through the Department of Education (hereinafter referred to as the "State") and Rhianne Dube (hereinafter referred to as the "Recipient"). The State and the Recipient do hereby mutually agree as follows:

1. The State shall pay to the named institution the sum of 3000.00, which monies shall be used for the purpose of enrolling the Recipient in: Career Counseling and Development and Group Process in Counseling (course name), which course(s) is being offered by Emporia State University and which course(s) shall commence on 8/22/2022 and terminate on 12/09/2022.
2. The Recipient shall complete and achieve a passing grade in each course named in paragraph 1.
3. Should the Recipient fail to complete or achieve a passing grade in each course named in paragraph 1, the Recipient shall pay to the State the sum set forth in paragraph 1, provided, however, that if more than one course is named in paragraph 1, the amount which shall be paid to the State shall be calculated on a pro rata basis.
4. Upon the satisfactory completion of the courses named in paragraph 1, the Recipient shall continue in the employ of the State in his/her current position (or in such other position, at equal or greater compensation, to which he/she may be assigned) for a period of 6 months.
5. The Recipient shall work in any area of the State to which he/she may be assigned, provided that such assignment will not constitute a severe hardship to said Recipient.
6. Should the Recipient breach any of the conditions set forth in paragraphs 4 and 5, the Recipient shall pay to the State a sum equal to all monies previously paid by the State for the Recipient pursuant to the Agreement, provided, however, that the Recipient shall receive a credit for each month in which he/she is employed by the State subsequent to the date upon which the named course(s) are satisfactorily completed, the value of said credit to be calculated on a pro rata basis.
7. The Recipient shall not raise any setoff or counterclaim against the State in any action brought by the State to collect any amount due under this agreement.
8. Should any amount be found to be due the State in any action brought against the Recipient pursuant to this Agreement, the State shall, in addition to said amount, be entitled to an award of costs and a reasonable amount in "attorney" fees.

IN WITNESS WHEREOF the representatives of the State, in his/her official capacity only, and without personal liability, and the Recipient, have hereunto set their hands on the date first above written.

RECIPIENT
(signature) Rhianne Dube (printed name) Rhianne Dube

NOTARY State of New Hampshire, County of Coos :

On this the 24 day of May, 2022, before me, Rhianne Dube, the undersigned officer, personally appeared, (recipient) known to me (or satisfactorily proven) to be the person whose name is subscribed to the within instrument and acknowledged that he/she executed the same for the purposes herein contained.

In witness whereof I hereunto set my hand and official seal.

Jessica L. Patrick
Notary Public/Justice of the Peace

JESSICA L. PATRICK, Notary Public
My Commission Expires February 19, 2025

THE STATE OF NEW HAMPSHIRE
(signature) Frank Edelblut (date) 7/12/2022

(printed name, title) Frank Edelblut, Commissioner