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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
FAX (603) 271-1953

April 12, 2021

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 2021 National Council of School Facilities (NCSF) membership dues to the National Council on School Facilities, Washington, DC, (vendor code 315139), in an amount not to exceed $5,000.00, effective July 1, 2021 through June 30, 2022. 100 % General Funds

Funds are anticipated to be available in the account School Safety & Facilities in FY22 upon the availability and continued appropriation of funds in the future operating budget as follows:

		FY22
06-56-56-567010-30580000-026-500251	Membership Fees	$5,000.00

EXPLANATION

The National Council of School Facilities (NCSF) is a nonpartisan, nationwide, nonprofit organization of public officials who head school facility programs at the department of education in the United States, the District of Columbia, the Department of Defense Education Activity, the Bureau of Indian Education, and five U.S. territories. NCSF supports states in their varied roles and responsibilities and advocate for support mechanisms and processes that equitably deliver safe, healthy, and educationally appropriate public school facilities that are sustainable and fiscally sound. NCSF also provides leadership, advocacy, and technical assistance on major educational facility issues. The Council seeks member consensus and expresses its views to civic and professional organizations, federal agencies, Congress and the public.

Participation provides the State of New Hampshire with direct support services and professional development activities focused on state level school infrastructure policy and practice and opportunities to engage in cross-state collaboration.

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 National Council on School Facilities (NCSF) was formed in 2012. New Hampshire has never been a member.

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?

   There are 20 other member states, as well as the Department of Defense Education Activity (DODEA), including Maine, Massachusetts, Connecticut, and Rhode Island. 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 annual fee for each state to become a member, $5,000 per state.

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

   NCSF provides technical assistance related to the school facility issues, such as indoor air quality, structural assessments, and facility condition indices. As well as assisting states with addressing current challenges such implications of the pandemic on school facility layouts, operations of heating, ventilation, and air conditioning (HVAC) systems to reduce COVID-19 exposures, understanding federal requirements for infrastructure projects using federal funds (e.g., CRSSA ESSER II funds and American Rescue Plan funds).

   NCSF also provides a platform and collaborative access to other state school facility managers across the United States. This allows the state of New Hampshire Department of Education to better support New Hampshire school districts in facility related matters.

   Annual meetings are held in person. Membership includes costs for one participant to attend the annual meeting, including registration, travel, hotel, and food.

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

   All training materials and educational/research materials are provided at no charge.

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 council does directly supports our ability to properly administer federal funds related to school facilities, such as the CRSSA ESSER II funds or the American Rescue Plan funds.

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. The NCSF meet once per year in Washington D.C. Membership dues cover the attendance for one participate, including registration, flights, hotel accommodations, and food. Only one member from NH Department of Education will attend.

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 Administrator for the School Safety and Facility Management Bureau would be a voting member of the organization. No other state agency employees are directly involved with this 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 access to the important technical assistance provided to support our school facilities. There is no other governmental or nonprofit organization that provides support specific to meeting the unique needs of state agencies responsible for K-12 school facilities. Their support is especially crucial this year, when the pandemic has required school facilities to operate with social distancing and install proper air quality measures for COVID-19. The information from the NCSF is also critically important when trying to effectively and efficiently assist schools on properly spending federal funds for facility related infrastructure projects, specifically from the CRSSA ESSER II funds, the American Rescue Plan funds, and from the potential American Jobs Plan funds. All of which include facility related infrastructure projects as eligible expenses. The ability to network with other state agencies across the United States on any school facility related issues is so important for an office of two staff. This allows a small state like New Hampshire operate more efficiently because it can network with numerous other state agencies performing the same K-12 school facility operations.

Respectfully submitted,

Frank Edelblut
Commissioner of Education

National Council on School Facilities
1816 12th Street NW
Washington, DC 20009-4422 US
afilardo@21csf.org

Invoice

NATIONAL COUNCIL ON SCHOOL FACILITIES
States Advancing Effective K-12 Policy, Planning, and Practice

BILL TO
New Hampshire Dept. of Educ. 101 Pleasant St Concord, NH 03301-3860

INVOICE #	DATE	TOTAL DUE			ENCLOSED
244	07/01/2021	$5,000.00			

DATE	ACTIVITY	DESCRIPTION	QTY	RATE	AMOUNT
	State Assessments	Assessment for New Hampshire Dept. of Education's Membership in the National Council on School Facilities for Membership Year 2021-2022 (July 1, 2021 – June 30, 2022). Includes: -Participation in the Council by the New Hampshire Dept. of Education -2021 Annual Meeting registration fee for one representative of the New Hampshire Dept. of Education	1	5,000.00	5,000.00

Pay to National Council on School Facilities-EIN 46-1945786

BALANCE DUE **$5,000.00**