



Lori A. Weaver
Commissioner

STATE OF NEW HAMPSHIRE
DEPARTMENT OF HEALTH AND HUMAN SERVICES
OFFICE OF THE COMMISSIONER

IA

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September 6, 2023

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

REQUESTED ACTION

Authorize the Department of Health and Human Services, to enter into an educational tuition agreement and to pay said costs in an amount of \$1,360.00 as follows:

Institution:	National Judicial College Judicial College Building; MS358 Reno, NV 89557
Course Title(s):	Judicial Writing
Course Date(s):	Begin: 09/18/2023 End: 09/21/2023
Employee:	Heather T. Cremmen
Funding Source:	05-95-95-953010-56770000-066-500544
Total Cost of Course(s):	\$1,360.00
State Share:	\$1,360.00
Source of Funds:	Employee Training; 20% Federal, 80% General

EXPLANATION

This course, *Judicial Writing*, will benefit the Department and Heather Cremen by enhancing the employee's ability to write concise and clear decisions for the Administrative Appeals Unit (AAU). *Judicial Writing* focuses on best practices in legal and judicial writing as well as the application of advanced composition principles at all levels of judicial work.

Heather has been employed with the Department of Health and Human Services (DHHS) since 2017 and assumed the role of Senior Hearings Examiner in January 2023. In this role, Heather trains new hearings examiners and assists them with writing decisions that will improve the overall quality of rulings that come out of AAU.

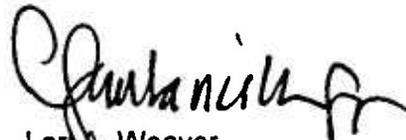
This education will directly impact Heather's performance hearing cases and writing AAU decisions. Heather has occasion to hear cases and write decisions and would benefit from a training on judicial writing. This employee also works with other hearings examiners and would use the knowledge gained from this course to ensure best practices, clear decisions and effective judicial documents.

The Department of Health and Human Services encourages and supports employees who wish to further their professional growth through continuing education in disciplines that are mutually advantageous. Successful completion of the courses will add to the overall strength of the Department to perform its mission for 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,



Lori A. Weaver
Commissioner



THE STATE OF NEW HAMPSHIRE
EDUCATIONAL TUITION AGREEMENT

Agreement dated this 16th day of August 2023 by and through the Department of Health and Human Services (hereinafter referred to as the "State) and Heather Cremmen (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 \$1,360.00, which monies shall be used for the purpose of enrolling the Recipient in: Judicial Writing (course name), which course(s) is being offered by National Judicial College and which course(s) shall commence on September 18, 2023 and terminate on September 21, 2023.
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 six (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) [Signature] (printed name) Heather Cremmen

NOTARY State of New Hampshire, County of Merrimack :

On this the 16th day of August, 2023, before me, Coleen L. Hill the undersigned officer, personally appeared, Heather I. Cremmen (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. Coleen L. Hill
Notary Public/Justice of the Peace
My Commission Expires April 6, 2027

THE STATE OF NEW HAMPSHIRE (signature) [Signature] (date) 8/21/23
(printed name, title) Christine Santaniello, Associate Commissioner