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Frank Edelblut
Commissioner

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Deputy Commissioner

STATE OF NEW HAMPSHIRE
DEPARTMENT OF EDUCATION
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April 3, 2025

Her Excellency, Governor Kelly A. Ayotte
and the Honorable Council
State House
Concord, New Hampshire 03301

REQUESTED ACTION

For inclusion on the Governor and Council Consent Calendar. Pursuant to MOP 1200, I. D., authorize the New Hampshire Department of Education to pay the Assessing Special Education Students (ASES) collaborative, Council of Chief State School Officers (VC#170715), Washington, DC, the amount of \$13,030 for FY26 membership dues effective upon Governor and Council approval for the period of July 1, 2025 through June 30, 2026. 100% General Funds.

Funds are anticipated to be available in the following account for Fiscal Year 2026 as follows:

06-56-56-567010-70640000 Assessment - State

Fiscal Year	Class/Account	Class Title	Total Amount
2026	026-500251	Organizational Dues	\$13,030

EXPLANATION

The Assessing Special Education Students (ASES) collaborative supports states as they enhance their assessment, accountability, and curriculum and instruction systems to provide full participation for students with disabilities. ASES is a national collaborative that brings together experts in the fields of assessment and special education from the state education agency, industry sector and higher education, to identify challenges and find solutions for inclusion of students with disabilities through policy and practice. The Alternate/English Language Proficiency Specialist from NHED is an active member in ASES and provides significant support in meeting the state and federal requirements necessary for the assessment of students with disabilities.

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.

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?

All 50 states and the District of Columbia, Department of Defense Education Activity, Bureau of Indian Education, and five U.S. territories belong to the organization. The New Hampshire Department of Education (NHED) 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.)

Standard fee applied for one membership for event access, with a sliding scale depending on the number of members from each state.

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

New Hampshire receives travel costs for national meetings, support for transformation efforts, and access to national and international speakers for state and local conferences. CCSSO also provides New Hampshire with direct technical assistance on implementation of the newly reauthorized Elementary and Secondary Education Act, known as the Every Student Succeeds Act (ESSA). This technical assistance includes guidance documents specific to leading state education agencies, access to webinars and learning best practices from peer states and national experts, and one-on-one support and guidance as requested.

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

Yes, 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.

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 Assessment Administrator to any meetings that are organized by the Assessment, Standards, & Education for Students (ASES) collaborative throughout FY 25.

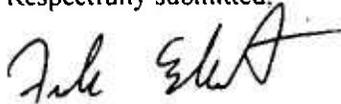
9. Which state agency employees are directly involved with this organization? (Indicate if they are members, voting members, committee members, and/or officers of the organization.)

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 membership, as well as the Assessment Administrator.

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

The NHED would not have access to many research efforts or analysis of federal legislation. We would also not have the direct ability to quickly collaborate with other states on critical education issues, particularly related to the federal assessment and accountability systems.

Respectfully submitted,



Frank Edelblut
Commissioner of Education



INVOICE

Council of Chief State School Officers

1 Massachusetts Ave NW, Ste 800
Washington, DC 20001-1406
Phone: 202-336-7000
accounting@ccsso.org

INVOICE #: INV-00034
DATE: 04/03/2025
DUE DATE: 05/03/2025

TOTAL AMOUNT: \$13,030.00
TOTAL DUE: \$13,030.00

BILL TO: New Hampshire Department of Education
Lynette Ronchaquira
25 Hall Street
Concord, NH 03301

DESCRIPTION / MEMO	AMOUNT
ASES 1 rep 7/1/2025-6/30/2026	\$13,030.00
TOTAL AMOUNT:	\$13,030.00

TOTAL DUE: \$13,030.00

AMOUNT ENCLOSED:

Invoice #: INV-00034

BILL TO: New Hampshire Department of Education
Lynette Ronchaquira
25 Hall Street
Concord, NH 03301

REMIT TO: Council of Chief State School
Officers
PO Box 786261
Philadelphia, PA 19178-6261