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Frank Edelblut
Commissioner

Christine Brennan
Deputy Commissioner

STATE OF NEW HAMPSHIRE
DEPARTMENT OF EDUCATION
25 Hall Street
Concord, N.H. 03301

July 11, 2025

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

REQUESTED ACTION

Authorize the Department of Education, Bureau of Vocational Rehabilitation (VR) to amend a contract with Northeast Deaf and Hard of Hearing Services, Inc. (NDHHS) of Concord, NH (Vendor Code 159021) by increasing the price limitation by \$13,389.19 from \$227,755.61 to \$241,144.80, with no change to the end date, to provide Independent Living (IL), Part B services, effective upon Governor and Council approval through September 30, 2027. The original item was approved by the Governor and Council on October 18, 2023 (Item #109). 100% Federal Funds.

Funds are available in Fiscal Years 2026, 2027 and are anticipated to be available in Fiscal Year 2028 upon the availability and continued appropriation of funds in the future operating budget, with the authority to adjust budget line items with the price limitation and encumbrances between Fiscal Years through the Budget Office if needed and justified.

06-56-56-565010-25420000 SVCS PART-B - FEDERAL

Fiscal Year	Class/Account	Class Title	Current Budget	Increase Amount	Revised Budget
2024	102-500731	Contracts for Program Services	\$42,704.18	\$0	\$42,704.18
2025	102-500731	Contracts for Program Services	\$56,938.90	\$0	\$56,938.90
2026	102-500731	Contracts for Program Services	\$56,938.90	\$5,950.75	\$62,889.65
2027	102-500731	Contracts for Program Services	\$56,938.90	\$5,950.75	\$62,889.65
2028	102-500731	Contracts for Program Services	\$14,234.73	\$1,487.69	\$15,722.42
Total			\$227,755.61	\$13,389.19	\$241,144.80

EXPLANATION

The grant under Title VI, Part B of the Rehabilitation Act, as amended, enables the state to provide independent living services to individuals with significant disabilities so they can become more independent in their homes and communities. The Department provides services through contracts with nonprofit organizations which are directed and managed primarily by persons with significant disabilities.

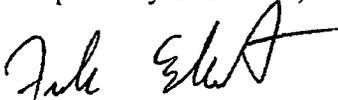
A Request for Proposals (RFP) was advertised in 2023 for IL Part B contracted services and four (4) vendors were chosen to divide funding into. Due to the expiration of a separate contract using funding from the same grant, there are additional funds to be dispersed to all four (4) contracts. VR determined the funding would be divided into the four IL Part B contracts using the same percentage breakdowns as the original awards.

VR utilizes these contracts to have independent living services provided statewide so more individuals with significant disabilities can maintain residence in their chosen locations within their communities.

NHED has determined that the vendor is in good standing with the Secretary of State's Office, has secured the required levels of insurance, and has provided evidence of authority to execute and be bound by the contract.

Northeast Deaf and Hard of Hearing Services, Inc. is a non-profit organization, and NHED has confirmed the vendor is registered and in good standing with the Department of Justice's Charitable Division.

Respectfully Submitted,



Frank Edelblut
Commissioner of Education

**AMENDMENT TO
PROFESSIONAL SERVICES CONTRACT**

Now come the New Hampshire Department of Education, Bureau of Vocational Rehabilitation, hereinafter "the Agency," and Northeast Deaf and Hard of Hearing Services, Inc., Concord NH, hereinafter "the Contractor", and, pursuant to an agreement between the parties that was approved by Governor and Council on October 18, 2023 (Item #109) hereby agree to modify same as follows:

1. Amend section 1.8 of form P-37 by increasing the price limitation by \$13,389.19 from \$227,755.61 to \$241,144.80.
2. Remove Exhibit C (Method of Payment) and replace with C-1 (Method of Payment).
4. All other provisions of this agreement shall remain in full force and effect as originally set forth; and
5. This amendment shall commence upon Governor and Council approval and shall terminate on September 30, 2027.

This modification of an existing agreement is hereby incorporated by reference to the existing agreement by the parties and must be attached to the said agreement.

IN WITNESS WHEREOF, the parties, hereto have set their hands as of the day and year first above written.

THE STATE OF NEW HAMPSHIRE
Department of Education
(Agency)

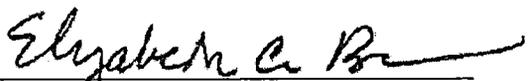
Division of Commissioner's Office

By:  7/14/2025
Frank Edelblut, Commissioner of Education Date

Northeast Deaf and Hard of Hearing Services, Inc.

By:  Jul 1, 2025
Michelle McConaghy, Executive Director Date

Approved as to form, substance and execution by the Attorney General this 14 day of July, 2025.


Elizabeth A. Brown, Division of Attorney General Office

Approved by the Governor and Council this _____ day of _____, 2025

By: _____

EXHIBIT C-1

Method of Payment

Budget Item	FY24	FY25	FY26	FY27	FY28	Total
Service Coordinator: Salary/Fringe Benefits	\$11,871.76	\$15,829.01	\$17,483.32	\$17,483.32	4,370.83	\$67,038.24
Service Coordinator: Salary Support	\$4,483.94	\$5,978.58	\$6,603.41	\$6,603.41	1,650.78	\$25,320.12
Interpreter/CART Services	\$13,921.56	\$18,562.08	\$20,502.02	\$20,502.02	5,125.52	\$78,613.20
Support Service Provider (SSP) Services	\$4,099.60	\$9,451.85	\$10,439.67	\$10,439.67	2,609.94	\$37,040.73
Travel: Staff Support	\$555.15	\$740.21	\$817.57	\$817.57	204.40	\$3,134.90
Travel: Interpreters/CART	\$3,202.81	\$4,270.42	\$4,716.73	\$4,716.73	1,179.20	\$18,085.89
Travel: SSP Providers	\$2,989.29	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$2,989.29
Office Supplies/Facility	\$1,580.07	\$2,106.75	\$2,326.93	\$2,326.93	\$581.75	\$8,922.43
Total	\$42,704.18	\$56,938.90	\$62,889.65	\$62,889.65	\$15,722.42	\$241,144.80

Limitation on Price:

Upon mutual agreement between the state contracting officer and the contractor, line items in this budget may be adjusted one to another, if needed and justified, but in no case shall the total budget exceed the price limitation of \$241,144.80. To be binding on the state, such adjustments of budget line items, must be memorialized in writing, executed by the Contracting Officer and approved by the Commissioner.

Funding Source:

Funds are anticipated to be available in Fiscal Years 2026, 2027, and 2028 upon the availability and continued appropriation of funds in the future operating budget, with the authority to adjust budget line items with the price limitation and encumbrances between Fiscal Years through the Budget Office if needed and justified.

06-56-56-565010-25420000 SVCS PART-B - FEDERAL

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Total			\$227,755.61	\$13,389.19	\$241,144.80

Contract between Northeast Deaf and hard of Hearing Services, Inc. (NDHHS)
and the New Hampshire Department of Education

Contractor Initials MM
Date Jul 1, 2025

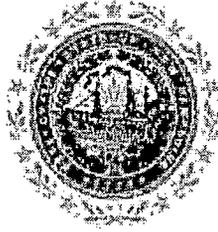
Method of Payment:

Payment is to be made on the basis of invoices which are submitted by the 10th of the following month and supported by a summary of completed deliverables, as outlined by budget line, that have taken place in accordance with the terms of the contract, along with a detailed listing of expenses incurred. If otherwise correct and acceptable, payment will be made for 100% of the expenditures listed. A final invoice is due within 30 days of the end of this contract. Failure to submit the invoice by this date could result in non-payment. Invoices and reports shall be submitted electronically to:

VR Accounts Payable
VRNH.AccountsPayable@doe.nh.gov
Cc: Jillian.H.Cotrona@doe.nh.gov

*Contract between Northeast Deaf and hard of Hearing Services, Inc. (NDHHS)
and the New Hampshire Department of Education*

Contractor Initials MM
Date Jul 1, 2025



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Frank Edelblut
Commissioner

Christine Brennan
Deputy Commissioner

STATE OF NEW HAMPSHIRE
DEPARTMENT OF EDUCATION
25 Hall Street
Concord, N.H. 03301
TEL. (603) 271-3495
FAX (603) 271-1953

October 3, 2023

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

REQUESTED ACTION

Authorize the Department of Education, Bureau of Vocational Rehabilitation (VR) to enter into a **retroactive** contract with Northeast Deaf and Hard of Hearing Services, Inc. (NDHHS) of Concord, NH (Vendor Code 159021), in an amount not to exceed \$227,755.61, to provide Independent Living (IL), Part B services, effective upon Governor and Council approval for the period of October 1, 2023 through September 30, 2027. 100% Federal Funds.

Funds to support this request are available in the account titled VR Independent Svcs Part B-Federal in FY2024, FY2025, and are anticipated to be available in FY2026, FY2027 and FY2028, upon the availability and continued appropriation of funds in the future operating budget with the ability to adjust encumbrances between State Fiscal years through the Budget Office, without further Governor and Council approval, if needed and justified.

	<u>FY2024</u>	<u>FY2025</u>	<u>FY2026</u>	<u>FY2027</u>	<u>FY2028</u>
06-56-56-565010-25420000-102-500731	\$42,704.18	\$56,938.90	\$56,938.90	\$56,938.90	\$14,234.73
Contracts for Program Services					

EXPLANATION

This contract is **retroactive** because during the request for proposal posting period the incorrect P37 contract form was inadvertently posted. Consequently, this extended the necessary timeframe for completing all aspects of the contract process. This contract being retroactive will allow the vendors to not incur delays in providing critical services to individuals with disabilities. The New Hampshire Department of Education receives an annual grant of \$338,117 from the United States Department of Health and Human Services, Administration of Community Living, and Independent Living Administration. The grant under Title VI, Part B of the Rehabilitation Act, as amended, enables the state to provide independent living services to individuals with significant disabilities so they can become more independent in their homes and communities. The Department provides services through contracts with nonprofit organizations which are directed and managed primarily by persons with significant disabilities. The services provide under the contract are available statewide. Services include: information and referral, peer advocacy, accessible van transportation, care coordination, vehicle modification program and independent living skills training.

His Excellency, Governor Christopher T. Sununu
and the Honorable Council
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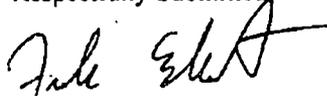
Northeast Deaf and Hard of Hearing Services, Inc. has a governing board that is controlled by persons with disabilities and is the only center in New Hampshire providing comprehensive services to individuals who are deaf or hard of hearing. The purpose of NDHHS is to promote life with independence for people who are deaf or hard of hearing in the state, which makes them uniquely suited to provide services to persons with disabilities. Services to be provided by NDHHS include: independent living skills training, service coordination, peer counseling, support service providers, interpreter and Computer-Aided Real-Time (CART) services and communication equipment loan program (CELP).

A Request for Proposals (RFP) was advertised on the Department of Education website on 7/14/23 with a deadline for proposals of 8/11/23. There were four (4) proposals submitted to the Request for Proposals "Independent Living, Part B" in response to the notice.

A review committee consisting of the Vocational Rehabilitation Director, Deputy Commissioner for Blind Services, a Regional Leader and Field Service Administrator. The team reviewed the four (4) proposals received by the deadline. See (Attachment A). The team recommended funding all four (4) proposals. Each contract will be submitted as it is completed.

The outcome VR would like to achieve with this contract is to have independent living services provided statewide so more individuals with significant disabilities can maintain residence in their chosen locations within their communities.

Respectfully Submitted,



Frank Edelblut
Commissioner of Education