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

Lori A. Weaver
Commissioner

Morissa Henn
Deputy Commissioner

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September 29, 2025

Her Excellency, Governor Kelly A. Ayotte
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 \$1,482.75 as follows:

Institution:	Southern New Hampshire University 250 North River Road Manchester, NH 03106
Course Title(s):	Strategic Opportunity Management
Course Date(s):	Begin: 11/10/2025 End: 01/25/2026
Employee:	Rebecca Lovell
Funding Source:	05-95-95-953010-56770000-066-500544
Total Cost of Course(s):	\$1,482.75
State Share:	\$1,482.75
Source of Funds:	Employee Training; 20% Federal, 80% General

EXPLANATION

This education will benefit the Department of Health and Human Services (DHHS) and Rebecca Lovell by improving the overall efficiency of the employee's work. It will enhance Rebecca's knowledge of how organizational leaders move strategic initiatives forward using innovation, collaboration, and data driven decision-making. This will provide the employee with the skills necessary to help solve complex problems and manage opportunities at the New Hampshire Public Health Laboratories (NH PHL), while helping Rebecca to build sustainable stakeholder relationships for the Division of Public Health.

This course, *Strategic Opportunity Management*, will provide guidance on how to assess conditions, processes, and resources that impact how leaders design adaptive strategies, using emotional and business intelligence to manage strategic objectives. This will help Rebecca to reach the goal of better managing resources and people at the NH PHL, while strategically planning for the next five years and beyond. Completing this course is part of Rebecca's pursuit of a Master's Degree in Public Administration.

Rebecca Lovell has been employed with DHHS for seventeen (17) years, two (2) years in the current position of 19-1020 Biologist Scientist-6 (Microbiologist IV) within the Bureau of Emergency Preparedness, Response, and Recovery, Division of Public Health. In this position, Rebecca is the technical lead for the conventional bioterrorism testing program and is responsible for overseeing and evaluating the work of laboratory scientists, laboratory assistants, and laboratory helpers. Additionally, this employee collaborates with federal agencies and other state laboratories to develop new procedures; assists with writing grant applications including budgets; and develops long and short-term goals and objectives for Arboviral surveillance, while maintaining capacity for emergency response to new threats.

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 12 day of August 2025 by and through the Department of Health and Human Services (hereinafter referred to as the "State) and Rebecca Lovell

(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 \$ 1482.75 , which monies shall be used for the purpose of enrolling the Recipient in: MBA-699 Strategic Opportunity Management (course name), which course is being offered by: Southern NH University and which course shall commence on November 10 20 25 and terminate on January 25 20 26.
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) Rebecca Lovell

(printed name) Rebecca Lovell

NOTARY State of New Hampshire, County of Merimack :

On this the 12th day of August, 2025, before me, Melissa Guenther, the undersigned officer, personally appeared,

Rebecca Lovell (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 MELISSA A. GUENTHER

NOTARY PUBLIC
State of New Hampshire
My Commission Expires
September 29, 2026

[Signature]
Notary Public/Judge of the Peace Signature

THE STATE OF NEW HAMPSHIRE

DHHS Commissioner or Designee Signature [Signature]

(printed name, title) Ann H. Landry, Assoc. Commissioner
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