



Caitlin D. Davis
Commissioner

Richard K. Sala
Deputy Commissioner

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

April 3, 2026

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

REQUESTED ACTION

For inclusion on the Consent Calendar. Pursuant to MOP 1200, I.D., authorize the Department of Education to pay the Technical Issues in Large Scale Assessments (TILSA) Collaborative, of the Council of Chief State School Officers (VC#170715) Washington, DC, in the amount of \$13,421 for the FY27 membership dues effective upon Governor and Council approval for the period of July 1, 2026, through June 30, 2027. 100% General Funds

Funds are available in the following account for Fiscal Year 2027 as follows:

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

Fiscal Year	Class/Account	Class Title	Total Amount
2027	026-500251	Organizational Dues	\$13,421

EXPLANATION

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.

The Technical Issues in Large-Scale Assessment (TILSA) Collaborative focuses on technical issues facing state assessment leaders and industry partners in implementing, developing and maintaining their large-scale assessment programs. TILSA members collaborate to provide recommendations and potential solutions to current problems in large-scale assessments and relevant research findings to state partners. These issues include psychometric challenges, innovative design approaches, comparability and validity of claims and test results. In addition, TILSA members consider how states, districts, schools, educators, parents and policymakers deal with the practical and policy implications associated with these technical issues. TILSA has and will continue to improve fairness, accessibility and validity in large-scale assessment. Members have used this Collaborative to address comparability issues, vet assessment innovations and strengthen psychometric practices.

The Assessment Administrator and support staff are active participants of CCSSO. Participation provides the State of New Hampshire with direct support services and professional development activities in such areas as student assessment programs, academic standards development and implementation, public policy issues, as well as accessing fiscal and other resources, higher education, and federal legislation.

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 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 Technical Issues in Large Scale Assessment (TILSA) collaborative throughout FY 27.

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Page 4 of 4

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 Department 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,



Caitlin D. Davis

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-00689**
DATE: **03/10/2026**
DUE DATE: **04/09/2026**

TOTAL AMOUNT: \$13,421.00
TOTAL DUE: \$13,421.00

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

DESCRIPTION / MEMO	AMOUNT
TILSA FY27 (7/1/26 - 6/30/27)	\$13,421.00
TOTAL AMOUNT:	\$13,421.00

TOTAL DUE: \$13,421.00

AMOUNT ENCLOSED:

Invoice #: INV-00689

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

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