1K - 6/17/26

Caitlin D. Davis
Commissioner

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STATE OF NEW HAMPSHIRE
DEPARTMENT OF EDUCATION
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April 13, 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 (Department), Bureau of Special Education Support to pay the 2027 Membership dues to the National Association of State Directors of Special Education (NASDSE) (VC#172212), Alexandria, VA, in the amount of $11,113.02 effective upon Governor and Council approval for the period of July 1, 2026 through June 30, 2027. **100% Federal Funds.**

Funds are available in the following account in FY27 as follows:

06-56-56-562010-25040000 IDEA-Special Ed-Elem/Sec

Fiscal Year	Class/Account	Class Title	Amount
2027	026-500251	Membership Fees	$11,113.02

EXPLANATION

The National Association of State Directors of Special Education (NASDSE) is a national non-profit 501(c)(3) organization for state leaders of special education that was established to help state education agencies implement special education and provide services that help the state implement positive systemic change and results for students with disabilities. NASDSE is the only national membership organization specifically designed to work directly with state level directors of special education. They support the state staff in navigating the complexities of federally required data collections under the Individuals with Disabilities Education Act (IDEA) Part B and Early Childhood Special Education and provide a crucial platform for state directors to collaborate, share best practices, and receive guidance on meeting compliance requirements and improving processes.

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Given NASDSE's unique role and capabilities, it is determined that they are the only resource exclusively capable of providing the specific expertise and support required for this initiative. Their ability to facilitate collaboration across states, engage in high-level policy discussions, and support data collection and reporting efforts uniquely qualifies them to continue providing critical services in this area.

NASDSE accomplishes its mission by establishing and maintaining relationships with those individuals and groups responsible for the development of policies, educational and other programs serving individuals with disabilities, and those responsible for implementation at the school, local district, state, and national levels. NASDSE promotes leadership development through collaborative relationship building with these stakeholders based on its Leading by Convening initiative and strategies.

Listed below are answers to standard questions required for Governor and Executive 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 National Association of State Directors (NASDSE) of Special Education was formed in 1938; the NHED, Bureau of Special Education Support has been a member for the past forty-seven (47) years, with the exception of last year.

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 State agency that is a member?**

   All 50 states, the District of Columbia, the Department of Defense Education Activity, the Bureau of Indian Education, and five U.S. territories are members. The New Hampshire Department of Education is the sole state agency in 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 for all States. The annual membership structure is based on the federal census count of all children from the ages of 3-21. States fall into one of eight-tiered categories based on their census count. The primary membership is for the state director of special education or the equivalent title. Added options for NASDSE dues include two Affinity Groups: Part B Data Managers and the Early Childhood Special Education Coordinators.

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

   - On-going collaboration with more than 58 national and state organizations that help States meet their missions through shared work.

- An annual conference uniquely tailored the professional development needs of state special education leaders.
- Monthly public policy updates via zoom.
- Monthly coaching and support.
- Mentorship by a veteran state director.
- Sharing of critical systemic models developed by states to improve outcomes for students in Special Education.
- Monthly newsletter with national updates.
- Collaborative partnerships with over 15 U.S. Department of Education, the Office of Special Education Programs (OSEP) funded technical assistance centers.
- Assistance with writing and implementation of OSEP funded State Professional Develop Grants.
- Support additional state special education staff for the collection/reporting of special education data and early childhood special education.
- Members only website with document sharing for policies, practices and procedures.

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

   Included in the membership at no extra cost:
   - NASDSE publications and other media
   - High interest publications such as the RTI (Response to Intervention) publication series, deaf education books and publications by Project Forum
   - Access to high quality special education information through NASDSE's website(s)

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.**

   No.

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.**

   - Rebecca Fredette, NHED NH State Director of Special Education, voting member
   - Zachary Jacques, NHED, Bureau of Special Education Support Administrator Office of Finance and Data Management, voting member in the Affinity group for Data Managers

- Alexa Simmons, NHED, Bureau of Special Education Support 619 Coordinator, voting member in the Affinity Group for 619 Coordinators (Preschool)

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

NASDSE is a strong organization that provides leadership and training to the States in matters of policy, programs, and services, while working to create the future for education services for persons with disabilities.
The negative impact would include, but not limited to:

- Inability to receive timely reporting on matters being considered by Congress;
- Loss of regular communication on critical issues and developments in the field;
- Inability to receive timely updates on policies and practices from the US Department of Education, the Office of Special Education Programs (OSEP) and various national organizations and associations.
- Loss of collaboration with other States to meet missions through shared work.
- Loss of collaboration in national coalitions working on national policy; Committee on Education Funding, the Elementary/Secondary Education Coalition, Consortium for Citizens with Disabilities.

Respectfully submitted,

Caitlin Davis
Commissioner of Education

National Association of State Directors of Special Education
1800 Diagonal Road, Suite 600
Alexandria, VA 22314

Membership Invoice

Invoice # 1900

REBECCA FREDETTE
NH BUREAU FOR SPECIAL ED SERVICES
NH DEPT OF EDUCATION
101 PLEASANT ST
CONCORD, NH 03301-3860

Thank you for your membership! To continue your membership and all the benefits it provides, please remit payment before the Due Date below. Thanks for renewing with NASDSE!

NOTE: PLEASE REFER TO RENEWAL EMAIL FOR ALL AVAILABLE PAYMENT OPTIONS - ACH, WIRE OR CHECK.

MEMBER	ITEM	AMOUNT
NH BUREAU FOR SPECIAL ED SERVICES 7/1/2026 - 6/30/2027	Member Membership Dues Membership Add-Ons: 619 Coordinator (1@1070.00) Data Manager (1@1070.00)	8,973.02 2,140.00
	TOTAL:	11,113.02

Payment Stub

Please tear off this stub and include with your payment.
Send payment to:

National Association of State Directors of Special Education
1800 Diagonal Road, Suite 600
Alexandria, VA 22314

or login and pay online at www.nasdse.org

Member: FREDETTE, REBECCA
NH BUREAU FOR SPECIAL ED SERVICES

Invoice #: 1900
Description: Membership Dues
Date Due: 7/31/2026

Amt. Due: 11,113.02

Enclosed: