

NEW ENGLAND BOARD of HIGHER EDUCATION



Our mission is to promote greater educational opportunities and services for New England residents. Our core programs and services focus on cost savings and affordability and college access and success. We also provide policy leadership on key issues related to education and the economy.

The New England Journal of Higher Education (NEJHE):

The authority on higher education trends and analysis in New England and beyond for more than 25 years, NEJHE articles are published online at www.nebhe.org. Readers are alerted to higher education news and developing stories through *Newslink* and the weekly *NEJHE NewsBlast* email newsletter.

Policy & Research: NEBHE provides timely research and policy analysis to inform policymakers, practitioners and the public on higher education and workforce development issues in New England and beyond. Examples of this work include issue briefings to legislative bodies and reports drawing upon national and regional research in areas such as higher education enrollment and financing. Additionally, NEBHE engages in sponsored initiatives on topics such as state financial aid and developmental education reform.

Professional Development Programs: NEBHE's Problem Based Learning (PBL) Projects have developed a set of authentic real-world case studies in partnership with industry in the fields of optics and photonics, sustainable technologies, advanced manufacturing, and science, technology, engineering and mathematics (STEM). The PBL series of curriculum and professional development projects focuses on competencies to support the growth and competitiveness of New England's technical workforce.

Joblink: Recruitment and employment resources through partnership with the New England Higher Education Recruitment Consortium (NE HERC).

SARA: The State Authorization Reciprocity Agreement (SARA) is a voluntary agreement among states and U.S. territories that establishes comparable national standards for interstate offering of postsecondary distance-education courses and programs. NEBHE is working with the National Council for State Authorization Reciprocity Agreements and other regional higher education compacts in an initiative to make it easier for students to take online courses offered by postsecondary institutions based in another state—and easier for the institutions themselves.

Tuition Break: The New England Regional Student Program, established in 1957, saves New England residents millions of dollars on their annual tuition bills when they pursue specialized academic programs at out-of-state public colleges and universities in the region.

Conferences: NEBHE's conferences engage education, government and business leaders and professionals on subjects such as the economic development role of colleges and universities; college completion; innovations in teaching and learning; institutional productivity; and higher education funding models.

Higher Education Excellence Awards: NEBHE's annual awards recognize leaders and programs in the higher education, government and business sectors that exemplify excellence in one or more areas— innovation, diversity, partnerships and collaborations or educational opportunity.

For more information, visit www.nebhe.org or call 617-357-9620

new england board of higher education's

tuition break

for new england residents

\$58 million in annual tuition savings

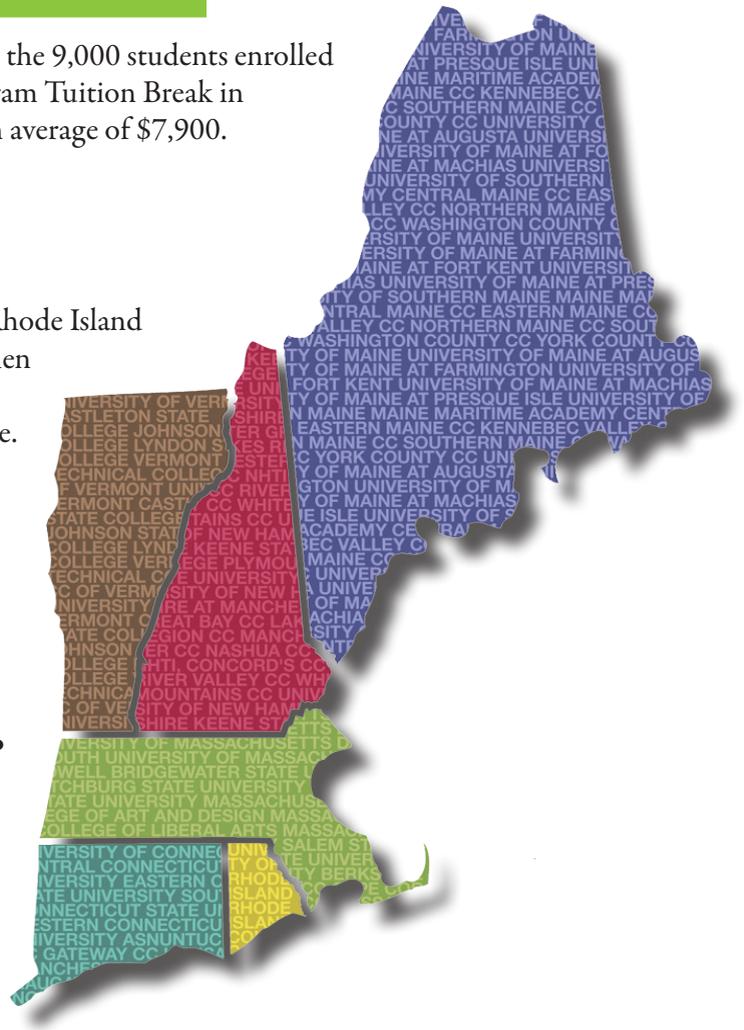
That's the total tuition savings benefit to the 9,000 students enrolled under NEBHE's Regional Student Program Tuition Break in 2015-16. Each full-time student saved an average of \$7,900.

6 New England states

Connecticut, Maine, Massachusetts, New Hampshire, Rhode Island and Vermont residents pay lower out-of-state tuition when they pursue specialized degree programs, not offered by the public colleges and universities in their home state.

800+ approved programs

astronomy • aviation science • biophysics • Chinese • cognitive science • cybersecurity • dance • dental medicine • digital media • energy technology • environmental engineering • ethnic and gender studies • food systems • game design • global policy • health care management • Japanese • justice studies • laser and fiber optics • marine policy • marine sciences • material science • meteorology • occupational therapy • ocean engineering • outdoor education • pharmacy • robotics and mechatronics • sustainable agriculture • sustainable design • textiles • therapeutic recreation • wildlife biology • wind power technology • *and many more...*



80 public colleges and universities

in Connecticut, Maine, Massachusetts, New Hampshire, Rhode Island and Vermont offer their specialized degree programs.

www.nebhe.org/tuitionbreak • 857-284-4870

THE NEW ENGLAND JOURNAL OF HIGHER EDUCATION

Comprehensive, constantly updated
higher education news, commentary and analysis
exclusively from
The New England Journal of Higher Education

NEBHE's online *Journal* includes the provocative perspectives and thoughtful analysis of key issues that characterized *The New England Journal of Higher Education* throughout its 25-year print run, with the added immediacy and interactivity of daily updates and dynamic content.

As the platform for the online *Journal*, NEBHE's website serves as a portal for all things related to New England higher education and its vital role in powering the region's human capital and innovative economy. Our rich collection of content includes:

- Long- and short-form commentary and analysis, including higher education news from Washington, D.C. and state capitals
- Campus news and events in *Newslink* and via Twitter and other social media
- *NEJHE NewsBlast*, a weekly email digest highlighting notable news and features in the online *Journal* and other news around NEBHE
- Current and past *NEJHE* articles, reader comments and dialogue, including a complete archive of full past issues
- Exclusive statistics on critical higher education data in New England and beyond
- Video of the proceedings of NEBHE conferences and events
- Links to NEBHE programs and partners
- Easy sharing of articles to social media.

For more information, contact:
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Read it all at www.nebhe.org



Policy & Research at NEBHE

Projects, Activities and Publications

September 2016

Multi-year Projects

Higher Education's Impact on the New England Economy

- A multi-part series that quantifies, documents and describes the impact of higher education as a whole on the regional economy
 - > Takes a broader approach to higher education's often-overlooked contributions in attracting new resources and improving the productivity of existing resources
 - > Includes state spotlights and state appendices
- The Federal Reserve Bank of Boston advises on research methodology and analysis
- The first part, *Investing in People: A Study of Higher Education & Human Capital*, was released in August 2016
- The second part, focusing on community development, is planned to be released in spring 2017

Would this research be useful in your state?

NEBHE is available for tailored in-state presentations.

Call Gretchen at 617-533-9522 to discuss.

Regional Student Program Community College Transfer Initiative (RSP Transfer)

- New three-year \$300,000 Balfour Foundation grant
- Interstate initiative to facilitate transfer from community colleges to out-of-state bachelor's degree programs offered under the Regional Student Program (RSP), including:
 - > Informational outreach campaign targeted to community college students considering transfer to a four-year institution
 - > Development of 20 structured RSP community college transfer pathways in fields important to the regional economy
- Start date to be determined

Redesigning Student Aid in New England (Redesigning Aid)

- Three-year Lumina Foundation grant ending winter 2016
- Supports states considering how state financial aid can be used more effectively to improve student access and success
- Three participating states: Maine, Massachusetts, Rhode Island
- Currently in Phase II: Technical Assistance
 - > **Maine:** "Voice of the customer" focus group and survey research to understand students', families', and administrators' experiences with grant program
 - > **Mass.:** Studying potential state aid program consolidation
 - > **R.I.:** Integrating financial aid information into state data sharing tool (DataHUB) used to allocate public resources and answer policy questions
- Publications: *Strengthening State Investment in College Affordability*
 - > Insights and recommendations – February 2016
 - > Full project report – Winter 2016

Opportunities Ahead

- **Commission on Higher Education & Employability:** Convening the region's key decision-makers from higher education, government and business/industry to increase the work readiness and employability of New Englanders, in development – Fall 2016
- **New England Legislative Institute for Higher Education:** As an evolution of the LAC, a new format of engaging and supporting state legislators, in development – Fall 2017

Activities

- Legislative Advisory Committee meetings – Semi-annual, September and April
- Legislative testimony and briefings – As requested
- In-state SHEEO meetings – Ongoing
- Multi-state convenings
 - › Facilitation of New England state teams' participation in National Conference of State Legislatures (NCSL) Legislative Institute for Higher Education – annual, each October
- Membership on and presentation to external committees, task forces and convenings
 - › New England Children's Savings Account Consortium (Federal Reserve Bank of Boston)
 - › Financial Aid Advisory Committee (Massachusetts Department of Higher Education)
 - › Student Financial Aid Research Network annual conference
 - › Talent Development Committee (Massachusetts High Tech Council)

Publications

- Recent publications:
 - › Using Khan Academy in Community College Developmental Math Courses: Results and Lessons Learned from *Developmental Math Demonstration Project*
 - › *Higher Education's Impact on the New England Economy: Investing in People*
 - › *Policy Spotlight on New England: A Look at the Relationship between Policy and Practice in K-12 Education Reform – Insights for State and District Leaders*
 - › *New England Fast Facts: College Readiness in New England – A Snapshot*
 - › *Policy Spotlight on New England: How Selective Colleges and Universities Evaluate Proficiency-Based High School Transcripts – Insights for Students and Schools*
- Forthcoming publications:
 - › *Policy Spotlight on New England: Dual Enrollment – September 2016*
 - › *Policy Spotlight on New England: Completion Colleges – October 2016*
 - › *Higher Education's Impact on the New England Economy: Investing in Place – Spring 2017*

Save the Date!

Monday, October 17, 2016

NEBHE Conference

Talent 4.0: How Employable are New England's College Graduates and What Can Higher Education Do About It?

Monday, April 3, 2017

Legislative Advisory Committee meeting

Monday, April 3, 2017

NEBHE Board meeting

Tuesday, April 4, 2017

NEBHE Conference

Topic TBD

All events at the Federal Reserve Bank of Boston (FRBB)
Boston, MA

For more information, please contact Gretchen Syverud at gsyverud@nebhe.org or (617) 533-9522.

About the New England Board of Higher Education (NEBHE)

Established in 1955 by six visionary New England governors, NEBHE is a regional compact that works across New England to: help leaders assess, develop and implement education practices and policies of regional significance; promote regional cooperation that encourages efficient sharing of education resources; and strengthen the relationship between higher education and the regional economy. Learn more at www.nebhe.org.



@nebhe

PROBLEM-BASED LEARNING

NEBHE's Problem-Based Learning (PBL) initiatives help schools, teachers and students revolutionize STEM learning and teaching processes, build 21st century skills, and provide tools and resources enabling innovative teaching in STEM disciplines.



“Although the process of student embracement of the Good Learner concepts is taking somewhat longer than expected, it’s definitely working. Students continue to openly discuss the relevance, dependability, and accuracy of the concepts with their classmates, and teachers of other than STEM subjects. Teachers have actually asked me for your [resources] in order to begin a similar process with their students. As you stated multiple times, going from an acceptable ‘spectator’ to a self-evaluator/planner/monitor takes more than just one class period. My objective remains effective and productive Problem Based Learning, which I now understand requires students that appreciate the characteristics that make them so good at what they do.”

Felix Giordano

STEM Teacher, Hartford Public Schools

For more than 25 years, NEBHE has been dedicated to improving student learning outcomes in science, technology, engineering and math (STEM) education by enhancing student-centered approaches to curriculum and instruction. NEBHE’s **Problem-Based Learning (PBL)** project, Advanced Manufacturing PBL, was the most recent in a series of curriculum and professional development projects. Since 2006, each National Science Foundation (NSF) PBL-funded grant developed a curriculum of interdisciplinary, multi-media real-world Challenges (case studies) in partnership with industry.

To address the dynamic changes of today’s workforce and its need for 21st century skills, NEBHE’s PBL Projects are evolving into a resource center whose mission is to transform pedagogy in a way that supports and engages active learning in:

- K-12 settings
- Postsecondary institutions
- Community-based organizations
- Industry partner organizations.

Our goal is to develop student readiness through education-to-career pathways for those unlikely to succeed in a routine classroom. Recent and specific examples of NEBHE’s work include:

- **Hartford Public Schools:** Connecticut school district made up of 17 high schools and 33 K-8 schools; NEBHE worked with 85-90 teachers from nearly two dozen schools to implement PBL strategies
- **YouthBuild:** Nonprofit organization whose mission is to provide young people with positive life experiences and opportunities through acts of responsibility for themselves and their communities; NEBHE has conducted PBL training for three YouthBuild organizations in Providence, Hartford and Newark, New Jersey
- **Connecticut Advanced Manufacturing Initiative (CAMI):** Industry-based partnership used to support PBL instructional methods in manufacturing programs across the state’s community colleges.

Our Balanced Approach to Teaching is a model used to help educators understand the differences among the three main components to teaching and learning (student, teacher, curriculum) and interactions between them and their effect on learning outcomes. NEBHE utilizes a systems approach to working with educators to support curriculum development and the balance between:

- **A good student and a good learner:** Moving from answering questions to asking questions by developing self-regulation skills, problem-solving, and critical thinking
- **Teacher-centered teaching and student-centered teaching:** Moving from lectured instruction to facilitating learning
- **Technical skills and employability skills:** Moving from content knowledge to application of knowledge and 21st century skills.

Through professional development and ongoing guidance, NEBHE will continue to expand beyond the workshop model to support educators in adopting this balanced approach to teaching and learning.