

PART Ed 306 MINIMUM STANDARDS FOR PUBLIC SCHOOL APPROVAL

Guiding Principles for the 2022 Proposed Revisions

Purpose Statement

As our society has evolved and become more and more complex, so, too, have the needs placed by society on our New Hampshire schools. Now more than ever, we need schools that personalize learning to high degrees for all students at all grade levels in the system, using a competency-based approach. The purpose of our schools is to ensure high levels of learning for all, whatever it takes.

What is Ed306?

Ed306 is a set of regulations, adopted by the NH State Board of Education, that identify the minimum standards that a public school must meet in order to be approved by the NH Department of Education. Standards include not just expectations for academic programming but also for staffing, facilities, policies and procedures, resources, partnerships and community/family engagement, and other non-academic programs and services.

What is Competency-Based Education?

New Hampshire schools are organized as competency-based education (CBE) systems. The Aurora Institute (2019) provides the following comprehensive definition for CBE which informed the work to develop the proposed revisions:

1. Students are empowered daily to make important decisions about their learning experiences, how they will create and apply knowledge, and how they will demonstrate their learning.
2. Assessment is a meaningful, positive, and empowering learning experience for students that yields timely, relevant, and actionable evidence.
3. Students receive timely, differentiated support based on their individual learning needs.
4. Students' progress is based on evidence of mastery, not seat time.
5. Students learn actively using different pathways and varied pacing.
6. Strategies to ensure equity for all students are embedded in the culture, structure, and pedagogy of schools and education systems.
7. Rigorous, common expectations for learning (knowledge, skills, and dispositions) are explicit, transparent, measurable, and transferable.

References:

Levine, E. and Patrick, S. (2019). What Is Competency-Based Education? An Updated Definition. Aurora Institute, aurora-

[institute.org/resource/what-is-competency-based-education-an-updated-definition/](https://aurora-institute.org/resource/what-is-competency-based-education-an-updated-definition/)