

Dear Colleagues,

Today I am very excited to announce that CCSNH, The Foundation for New Hampshire's Community Colleges, and the New Hampshire Charitable Foundation (NHCF) have partnered to provide "A Gift to the Class of 2021." Every NH high school graduate is eligible for one three-credit fall semester course at any of our seven NH community colleges.

The past year has been challenging for everyone, especially New Hampshire's students. This incredible investment recognizes disruptions the pandemic has had on educational aspirations and seeks to 'give opportunity' to high school graduates across New Hampshire. This project encourages all graduating seniors, especially those who might otherwise pause their academic pursuits or be unsure of their next step, to build a connection with higher education that is affordable and accessible.

Supported by generous donors to both NHCF and our Foundation, the class gift helps New Hampshire high school graduates start college this fall at no cost. Every 2021 graduate from any New Hampshire high school or home-school program is eligible to register for one free class at any CCSNH college this fall. The gift covers tuition for a three-credit course and fees, up to \$755 per student!

I want to thank our partners at NHCF, Tim Allison, and President Alfred Williams, whose commitment to this idea and hard work was instrumental in bringing about this exciting opportunity. A big round of applause goes to the terrific work by our college admissions, advising and finance staff to prepare for the inquiries from high school students across the state. The teams at each college will work closely with incoming students to help them use this extraordinary gift and explore additional courses that can help put them on an educational pathway.

Please visit the Foundation's website for additional information at <u>www.givenhcc.org/classgift</u>.

Sincerely,

Susan D. Huard

Interim Chancellor

Community College System of NH