

## **BRIDGES PROGRAM**

PARTICIPATING INSTITUTIONS: NEW HAMPSHIRE COMMUNITY TECHNICAL COLLEGE, NASHUA AND LONDONDERRY HIGH SCHOOL

**Description:** Beginning in the 2005-2006 school year, New Hampshire Community Technical, Nashua (NHCTN) and Londonderry High School (LHS) enter into an agreement which allows eligible Londonderry juniors (Class of 2006) to attend NHCTN during their senior year. There are two options for the eligible Londonderry student.

Option one allows the Londonderry student to attend NHCTN full time, enrolled in courses on the Nashua campus. Students successfully completing these courses will receive LHS credit towards their high school diploma. If enrolled full time at NHCTN, Londonderry students will not be in attendance full time at LHS.

Option two allows the Londonderry student to enroll in a class or two per semester at NHCTN and apply these credits towards their Londonderry High School diploma.

**Eligibility:** LHS students must complete a regular NHCTN application and submit their official LHS transcript, standardized testing scores and either one recommendation from their guidance counselor or two teacher recommendations. The NHCTN application fee is waived for these applicants. Upon receipt of the applications, admission representatives from NHCTN will interview all applicants at LHS in May of the student's junior year. Admission decisions will be made prior to the conclusion of the school year and students have a June 30 deposit date to enroll in the program.

**Eligible criteria:** LHS students must be in "good standing" academically and be "on track" to graduate with their class. LHS students should have 18 credits and a minimum 2.5 cumulative grade point average at the conclusion of their junior year to qualify for this program.

**Credit:** LHS students, upon successful completion of the NHCTN courses, will receive 1.00 credit per college course, which will be recorded on the LHS transcript and be applied towards any Londonderry graduation and credit requirements. Students must supply the Londonderry guidance director with a copy of their NHCTN report card to certify grades and credits to be reflected on the LHS transcript. For potential college credits, LHS students must achieve a grade of "C" or higher and abide by these steps to earn potential college credit at their college or university destination:

- contact the NHCTN Registrar's office
- request that the "official" NHCTN course-work be sent to the college or university designated (see attachment)
- pay NHCTN directly any fees required to send transcript
- request letter from LHS Guidance Director to go to intended college or university explaining the details of the "BRIDGES" program (see attachment)

Please note that the college or university that the Londonderry student enrolls in will make the final decision on college credit. NHCTCN and LHS officials will endeavor to advocate for any “BRIDGES” student needing further assistance at the college/university of enrollment upon graduation from Londonderry High School.

**Financial aid:** successful “BRIDGES” students will be eligible for the Federal Stafford Loan of a maximum of \$2625 for full time enrollment in the program. LHS students and families must complete the Free Application for Federal Student Assistance (FAFSA) to qualify for this loan. All other scholarships and financial aid is at the digression of NHCTCN.

**Calendar:** please consult the following timeline for information and deadlines (all activities are conducted in the spring semester of junior year)

- March- all LHS juniors and parents receive a letter on the program and “Bridges” is publicized on the local access channel. In the letter, interested parents and juniors are invited to an evening session in April at LHS. An additional “school day” session may be made available to juniors in April, as well.
- April- applications are distributed to all interested LHS juniors.
- May- application due in Main Guidance on or about May 5
- May- interviews scheduled during the third week of May.
- June- admission decisions forthcoming in the first week of June
- June 30- LHS students “deposit”, indicating decision to enroll in program
- Summer- LHS “Bridges” students attend mandatory orientation session at NHCTCN
- Fall semester of senior year- each “BRIDGES” student must meet with the LHS guidance director or designee to assess academic progress
- January of senior year- first semester “BRIDGES” grades placed on LHS transcript
- Spring semester of senior year- second semester “BRIDGES” student must meet with LHS guidance director or designee to assess academic progress
- June/July of senior year- final “BRIDGES” grades placed on LHS transcript
- Summer after graduation- successful “BRIDGES” student requests “official” transcript from NHCTCN to go to college or university destination and letter from LHS guidance director, if necessary.

For more information:

Please contact Patricia Goodman, Vice-President of Student Enrollment at NHCTCN  
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Or Michael Dolphin, LHS Guidance Director  
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