

**The Moore Center**  
*Creating opportunities for a good life.™*

## **Accessible Chef - Resources to Teach Cooking Skills**



**Accessible Chef** is a collection of free visual recipes and other resources to help teach cooking skills to individuals with disabilities. Looking for Your Special Chef? You're in the right place! We changed our name to better reflect our goal to make cooking more accessible for everyone.

### **Accessible Chef has:**

- **Visual Recipes** - make use of task analysis, which is an evidence-based approach for breaking down a complex task into manageable steps. Each task is separated into discrete skills, and individuals can learn to complete skills in a specific order to learn new tasks.

- **Assistive technologies** - available in a variety of low and high tech options. Cooking apps can be found in the Apple app store, and include images of cooking supplies, actions, and appliances that can be combined into recipes and viewed on a phone or tablet.
- **Kitchen Equipment** - can be adapted to make cooking easier and safer for individuals with physical disabilities.

[Visit Accessible Chef](#)

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## School Voucher Legislation Update



CONCORD, NEW HAMPSHIRE – Today, the House Education voted to Retain HB 20, legislation which would establish a new school voucher program in New Hampshire. At public hearings on the bill, over 6000 people signed in opposition and hundreds signed up to speak against. Rep. Mel Myler (D-Concord), the Ranking Democrat on House Education, released the following statement:

“Public education is the foundation of democracy, created for the public good. New Hampshire has historically underfunded public schools, and last term we made significant progress to increase state support, sending over \$100 million more to local communities than ever before. This bill

would attack public education and decimate the progress we have made in providing state support.

HB 20 has too many serious flaws to list. It contains no protection for students against discrimination, little oversight, and is ripe for fraud. When fully implemented, the program would act as a tax-dollar giveaway to wealthy families. There has never been as much vocal opposition to a piece of legislation in New Hampshire as we have seen on this bill, for good reason.

Based on the Education Committee's thorough review yesterday, this bill is not ready to go forward. The committee detected numerous significant flaws within this legislation, and I am pleased that we will study the concept further before making a decision that could permanently harm our public schools."

## **Here are some additional legislative updates:**

### **Medicaid Dental Benefit:**

Both of the adult dental Medicaid bills have had their public hearings. There was widespread support. The House public hearing was technically recessed. The two bills have different effective dates, but both call for the new benefit to go live in mid 2022. The issue will have to be funded in the budget to become a reality.

### **Immunity from COVID-19 Lawsuits:**

The Senate Commerce committee is recommending that SB 63 be held back for another year of study. The bill would shield businesses and nonprofits from coronavirus-related lawsuits. There are some questions arising around the need to pass the bill. The public hearing on SB 63 brought to light that only four COVID lawsuits have been filed in the six New England States. In addition, the state department of Labor has reported there are only six "disputed claims" around COVID in the state.

### **Next Week:**

The House and Senate will be in full session and conducting zoom committee work and meetings. The NH House will be meeting at a sports

venue in Bedford on February 24th and 25th. The House still has not enacted rules to allow for a virtual meeting of the 400-member body.

### **State Budget:**

The House Finance Committee Division III continues to meet with senior DHHS staff to review the Governor's budget. We are continuing to monitor those meetings. We expect BDS/DLTSS to be at Division III in March.

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## **Massachusetts Down Syndrome Annual Conference**



Join us March 27-28, when we hold MDSC's 37th Annual Conference, where we will bring our Stronger Together theme to life. Once again, we will spotlight innovative research on the horizon as well as timely updates related to Covid-19.

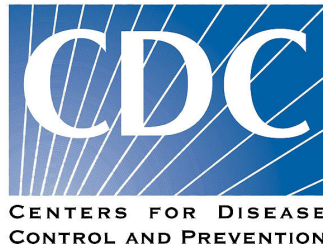
This year's conference, which will be fully virtual, will feature LIVE Interactive Workshops, Specialty Workshops, On-Demand Workshops and a Self-Advocate Track! It will include dozens of sessions for people with Down syndrome, their family members, health care professionals and educators, featuring the latest research findings and timely information from national and local experts on a range of topics related to Down syndrome.

See more details on our conference website.

[Register for the Conference](#)

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## The Latest CDC Mask Guidelines



Correct and consistent mask use is a critical step everyone can take to prevent getting and spreading COVID-19.

Masks work best when everyone wears them, but not all masks provide the same protection. When choosing a mask, look at how well it fits, how well it filters the air, and how many layers it has.

Visit the CDC website for the latest guidelines and recommendations.

[CDC Guide to Masks](#)

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## UNH Research Request



We received a research request letter from a graduate student at the University of New Hampshire, who is also the Relay Outreach Specialist for Northeast Deaf and Hard of Hearing Services.

She received a grant from the New Hampshire Council on Developmental Disabilities to conduct research on the experiences of disabled people related to finding and keeping employment, so that they can create a guide for employers about creating positive work experiences for these individuals.

She's looking to conduct interviews with people who meet **all of the following guidelines**. A \$25 stipend will be provided to all interviewees:

- Identify as having a disability and/or chronic illness that affects cognitive skills, motor skills, hearing, vision, and/or mental health
- Currently living in New Hampshire
- Between the ages of 18 and 65 years old
- Currently working or searching for a job

You can read more and see the contact details below.

[Review the Research Request](#)

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