# NEW ENGLAND BOARD of HIGHER EDUCATION

## Call for Proposals

### Open Education Program – OER Creation or Adaptation Program

## Opportunity

Open Educational Resources (OER) help reduce barriers to learning in postsecondary educational spaces, and while many high-quality, peer-reviewed resources have been developed and shared over the years, faculty continue to share that gaps still exist. That's why the New England Board of Higher Education (NEBHE) is awarding several grants of up to $5,000 to faculty (individuals or teams) from any of the six New England states to support the creation or significant adaptation of OER.

Have you been curious about publishing your own OER because you just can't locate one that fits the bill? This is a great opportunity to help reduce financial barriers to a high-quality education for students while also contributing to the scholarly community – and get compensated to do so! Applications that prioritize high-enrollment subjects are strongly encouraged to apply.

## Details

This opportunity is open to any faculty member (full or part-time) affiliated with an accredited two- or four-year private or public institution in the six New England states. If applying as a team, cross-institutional collaboration is encouraged, but not required.

Projects will be developed and hosted on NEBHE's Pressbooks account with light technical assistance. Priority will be given to projects that leverage and embed interactive assessments, simulations, or other means to thoughtfully engage students. NEBHE will also support the additional costs of copyediting and workshops for participants on topics such as accessibility guidelines, Creative Commons/copyright, and creating interactive assessments using H5P.

Applications will open the morning of March 2, 2026 and close at 5pm on April 3, 2026. Notifications will be sent on May 1st, 2026.

Project start dates can be flexible but will be expected to be completed no later than October 30, 2026.

Applications that prioritize high-enrollment subjects are strongly encouraged to apply.

No prior experience with OER is required to apply, however, a commitment to knowledge sharing by publishing your final work under one of the following Creative Commons licenses is: CC-BY, CC-BY-SA, CC-BY-NC, CC-BY-NC-SA or CC-0. NEBHE is happy to help awardees identify a license that best fits their needs.

## Funding Requirements

Individuals or teams receiving am award will be required to:

- Sign an agreement between yourself as the project lead and NEBHE.
- Attend Accessibility, Copyright, and Pressbooks workshops to be hosted virtually.
- Publish all OER produced through this program under a Creative Commons license.
- Use only awardee authored, Creative Commons licensed, Public Domain works, or Fair Use applications in your OER.
- Include all source and editable files used in creating the resource (including any multimedia files) to easily enable further remixing and modifications. Your copyright will remain yours.
- Share and celebrate your final product with the broader community through a NEBHE-sponsored free webinar and any other local opportunities on your campus(es).
- Commit to agreed upon timelines and deadlines.
- Work with the support and production teams as necessary to prepare materials for Academic Year 2026-2027.
- Teach with the OER developed through this project in your course(s) for a minimum of one academic year.
- Complete a Final Report.

For questions or comments, please contact openeducation@nebhe.org.

**All proposals must be submitted by 5pm on April 3rd, 2026.**

# Application Questions

## Contact Information

Project Lead

1. Full Name
2. Title
3. Email
4. Institution

Team Members (add as many as needed)

1. Full Name
2. Title
3. Email
4. Institution
5. Role and responsibility on the team

OER Experience

1. Have you used open educational resources (OER) previously in your courses? If yes, what specific OER have you used and in what course(s) did you use them?
2. Have you been involved in any other open education work? YES OR NO If yes, please provide a brief description of the work.
3. Does your institution(s) provide OER creation grants?
4. Do you have any conflicts of interest with Pressbooks or NEBHE?

## Project Information

1. Which course/topic are you applying for?
2. Provide a brief description of the proposed project including subject/content area to be developed or adapted. If it will be used at more than one institution, please mention this. Be sure to explain how this award will enhance your teaching practices and support student success (maximum 800 words).
3. What gaps in existing OER do you hope to address by developing or adapting your proposed OER? Be as specific as possible.
4. Please indicate if your proposed OER is:
   a. a portion (e.g. a chapter) of a larger project or deliverable, or
   b. the entire project or deliverable.

5. If your proposed OER is a "portion of a larger project or deliverable," please describe the larger project, specifying how the proposed OER fits within the larger project.
6. When do you plan to first use the proposed OER in a course?
7. Please describe the adoption potential for this type of course material in your discipline.
8. Please provide a projected timeline, including the following: month by month activities and deliverables and an estimated completion date.
9. At your institution(s), do you own copyright over your scholarly work?  (this is usually spelled out in your contract)
    a. Yes
    b. No
    c. Unsure
10. At your institution(s), is OER creation recognized in the tenure and promotion process (if applicable)?


## Project Development

1. Will students be involved in the authoring process of your OER as a part of their learning (open pedagogy)? If so, please describe.
2. Do you plan to build upon existing content you've already created as part of this project? (This is allowed if you own copyright.) If so, please describe and send a sample as part of your application.
3. Do you expect to write or create a significant amount of new, original content for this project?
    a. Definitely yes
    b. Probably not
    c. Definitely not
    d. I'm not sure
4. Do you plan to use existing openly licensed /Creative Commons licensed materials as part of this project?
    a. Yes (please describe)
    b. Maybe
    c. No
5. Will you need assistance in locating existing openly licensed /Creative Commons licensed materials for incorporation in this project?
    a. Yes (please describe)
    b. Maybe (please describe)

      c. No
6. We will not provide subject matter peer-reviewing services. We encourage peer review prior to completion but do not require it. If you plan to engage peer-review, please describe how you will obtain and incorporate it (e.g. professional associations or networks, colleagues or peers in the same discipline).

## Project Budget

1. What amount are you requesting? (up to $5,000)
2. Please upload a proposed budget that lists line items and expected expenses.
3. Please list any other funding (including sources) you have for this project.