



Operation: Military Kids Fiscal Year 2010 Partner Project General Description and Guidelines

What is Operation: Military Kids?

The NH Operation: Military Kids (OMK) program strives to create networks of support for military youth and families; connect youth with recreational, social and educational programs; and foster community understanding about the impact of the deployment cycle on the service member, family, children, and community. NH OMK partners with all branches of the military, as well as community organizations from across the state, to address the unique challenges military youth face before, during, and after a parent or loved one deploys. For more information, please visit us on the web at www.nhomk.com.

What is Partner Project funding?

Partner Projects approved by NH OMK receive up to \$500 to help defray the costs of programs, events, or activities that focus on military youth, but programs may include a combination of military and non-military youth. These funds are being made available to community groups who want to partner with NH OMK to create connections and support for military youth, and can be used for programs, events, and activities held between October 1, 2009, and August 30, 2010. Our goal is to support as many community-based projects as possible around the state, but funds are limited. Therefore, please request only the dollar amount you need, up to \$500. Partner Project programs can range from one-day to multi-day events, or can kick off long-term, sustainable support services for military kids.

Who can request funding?

Any group, organization, or business that wants to create a program or project to support military youth can request Partner Project funding. Organizations are not required to have military youth currently involved in their program, but military kids must be the target audience for any program or event that receives Partner Project funding. If you need assistance, NH OMK will partner with the military to help you reach out to military kids in your area.

Examples of uses for Partner Project funding:

Funding may be used for any of the ideas listed below. You are not limited by these suggestions, however. Be creative ... let your imagination soar!

- Organize a family fun day or evening event for military and non-military kids and families.
- Provide fun activities for military kids at Family Readiness Group (FRG) and/or other military meetings.
- Secure donations and/or purchase supplies for OMK Hero Packs, which are backpacks filled with items to thank children for the sacrifices they make and to help them keep in touch with deployed loved ones.
- Use the OMK Mobile Technology Lab to help military kids stay in touch with deployed loved ones by creating DVDs to share, writing letters or emails, making cards, or taking and sending pictures or videotaped messages.



Examples of Past Partner Project Events:

- Evergreen Lodge Fishing Derby
- Military Appreciation Day at Apple Hill Farm
- Kayaking on Squam Lake
- Summer-Long Therapeutic Horseback Riding Program at Pony Farm
- Military Youth Adventure Day at Copper Cannon
- Hero Pack Projects

Partner Project Conditions:

- Funds can only be used to cover direct costs. Ineligible expenses include: equipment; entertainment, such as banquets or tickets to shows; awards and certificates of achievement; clothing; promotional items; and thank you gifts.
- Only minimal expenses are allowed for food, such as refreshments necessary to allow for the continuity of an event. Organizations are encouraged to seek additional contributions, when needed.
- Groups must submit receipts to document how local Partner Project dollars were spent. If a group does not spend the entire amount, the balance will remain with the NH OMK program.
- Program funds cannot be used as a cash donation for another fundraiser.
- Please take pictures before, during, and after your project and include photos in your final report. You may submit a request to use the digital cameras and/or camcorders from the OMK Mobile Technology Lab at your event.

Application Process

- You must complete a Partner Project application and budget sheet, including an explanation of how funds will be used.
- Applications to do a Partner Project must be returned to the OMK office by January 31, 2010. Applications received after the deadline will be considered if there are funds remaining.
- Partner Project applications and information can be accessed on our website at www.nhomk.com in the “What’s New” section of the page. Applications can be filled out online and returned via email, fax, or paper mail. See submission instructions below.

Applications will be reviewed based on the proposed program idea, accessibility to military kids, and planned collaborations.

- Preference will be given to requests that utilize the Mobile Technology Lab (MTL) in the design of the proposed program, event, or activity. The MTL equipment includes video and digital cameras, laptop computers, scanners, and printers.
- Efforts will be made to provide Partner Project dollars to community groups throughout the state.



If you have any questions concerning the application process or the appropriate use of Partner Project funds, please contact the OMK office at 603-862-2297 or jody.jackson@unh.edu.

Please return the completed application in one of the following ways:

- Attached to an email addressed to jody.jackson@unh.edu
- Via fax, attention Jody Jackson, at 603-862-3271
- By paper mail to:
Jody Jackson
UNH Cooperative Extension
Pettee Hall, G05D
55 College Road
Durham, NH 03824

You will receive a confirmation of receipt by the same method of application submission. Please contact us if you do not receive a confirmation within five business days following the submission of your application.

Important Dates to Remember:

- All applications are due by **January 31, 2010**.
- All requests will be reviewed by the OMK staff, and applicants will be notified of their status **within 30 days** of receipt of the completed application.
- Partner Project programs must be completed and all documentation and reports submitted by **September 1, 2010**.

We look forward to working with you!