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## **HUNDREDS OF “NH SCHOLARS” HONORED AT STATE HOUSE ON NH SCHOLARS DAY**

### *FAST-GROWING INITIATIVE EXCEEDS HIGH SCHOOL GRADUATION REQUIREMENTS AND PREPS SENIORS FOR COLLEGE AND CAREER*

**Concord** – It started as a simple plan to encourage students to reach beyond the minimum graduation requirements and take more challenging courses. The concept: Tougher classes build better skills and boost chances for gaining acceptance into college and better careers. In 2007, 72 students joined the **New Hampshire Scholars Initiative**.

This month, over **1,400 high school seniors** in New Hampshire will accept their diplomas having completed the NH Scholars program. More than 900 of those graduates joined principals, teachers and administrators on the State House lawn to be honored by Governor John Lynch and Education Commissioner Virginia Barry in a special ceremony on May 25, 2010.

“The numbers speak for themselves,” explains Scott Power, Director of the NH Scholars Initiative. “Since we began this initiative, we’ve seen a spike in enrollment in high school chemistry classes, physics and foreign language.” The NH Scholars Initiative urges students in all 30 participating communities to be aggressive with their course schedules. Four years of English, at least 3 years of math and lab-based science, three and a half years of social science and two years of foreign language.”

Later this spring, all 1,415 NH Scholars will receive medallions at their high school class night marking their achievement. Representatives of New Hampshire’s colleges and universities will travel to each of the 30 high schools to greet the incoming college freshman class of 2010 and personally present them with medallions. The founding organization for NH Scholars is the NH College & University Council (NHCUC), a consortium of 17 public and private colleges and universities in the state of New Hampshire. For more information, visit [www.NHscholars.org](http://www.NHscholars.org)