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# News Release

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## NMCC awarded safety enhancement grants

**Aroostook County** – Officials from the Maine Municipal Association have selected Northern Maine Community College to receive two 2012 Safety Enhancement Grants. The awards will aid the college in the purchase of new equipment.

NMCC was recently notified that out of a total of 190 applications they had been selected to receive two grants totaling \$ 1,700 from Maine Municipal Association. The college will use the grant funds to purchase two emergency eye wash stations and two ergonomic work stations.

“The grant process is very competitive, so we are appreciative to have been at first considered and then selected,” said Carl Allen, safety and security manager at NMCC. “Receiving this grant gives us the opportunity to enhance employee safety while reducing and even eliminating potential hazards here on campus.”

Grants are awarded annually in both May and October. These grants provide financial assistance needed for organizations to give employees the proper tools and training required to promote workplace safety. Improving workplace safety for municipal employees helps to reduce costs to taxpayers by reducing the amount of lost work hours, insurance claims, and overtime expenses paid to other employees who might have to fill in for a co-worker injured on the job.

The Maine Municipal Association has been awarding safety grants to members of their Workers’ Compensation Fund since 1999. To date the grant program has bestowed more than \$2.6 million dollars through the funding of over 2,074 safety and enhancements grants and 333 scholarship grants.

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