

— 2nd Edition —

Beyond High School:

A Guide to Your Rights and Responsibilities



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Attorney Jennifer A. Eber

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Acknowledgments

Beyond High School was published from 1996 to 2000 as a booklet distributed to graduating high school seniors across New Hampshire. From 2001 through 2017, the *Beyond High School* information was available on the Law Related Education pages of the NH Bar Association website. In 2018, the NH Bar Association republished the information as a book. Attorney Laura Hartz, Attorney Robert Ducharme and teachers, Dan Marcus, John Stark Regional High School and Dennis Perreault, Campbell High School, as well as Beverly Rorick assisted with reviewing and editing the 2018 edition. Books were then gifted to High School seniors around the state before graduation.

In 2019, the book has been up-dated and sections added by Attorney Jennifer A. Eber. Attorney David W. McGrath, NHBA President, and Attorney Richard Guerriero, NHBA Governor at Large, with guidance from George R. Moore, Esq., NHBA Executive Director, made edits to content. Beverly Rorick and Barbara Giroux assisted with reviewing and editing.

Artwork from New Hampshire students has been incorporated in several pages of the book. Thank you to the students at Concord High School for providing additional new artwork for the 2019 Second Edition. Thank you to Jeffrey Fullam, art teacher at Concord High School and the following students for submitting artwork: Christian Garland, Bri Chartier, Edith Amegnra, Kat Paris, Triana DeGeorge, Rebekah Johnson, Rachel Benson, Albert Labrie, Gabrielle Czerula and Keela Chen.

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A special thank you to Ian Von Miller and his art teacher, Ms. Peggy Houseworth, whose art work is republished again for the 2019 edition. Mr. Von Miller's artwork was originally published on the cover of the 1998 and 1999 editions of the *Beyond High School: Your Rights and Responsibilities* booklet when he was a student at Plymouth Regional High School.

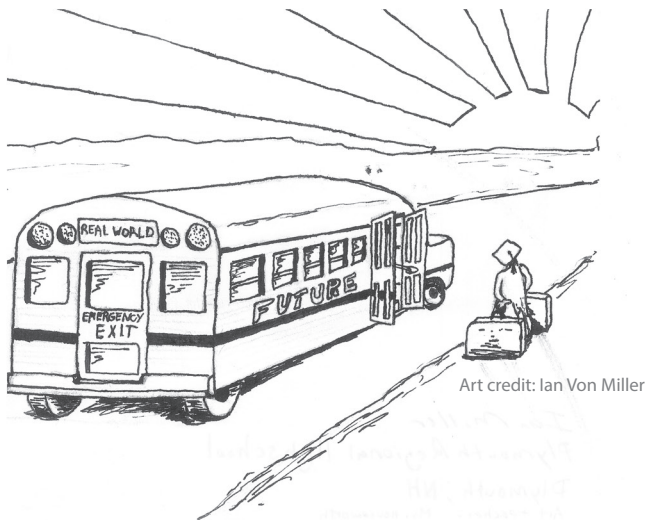
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A note from the author:

I want to thank my family for their love and support.

Finally, I want to thank Orr & Reno, P.A., whose values of community service have been stressed since the days of Attorney Dudley Orr and Attorney Robert Reno. As Anna Quindlen wrote in *A Short Guide to a Happy Life*, "All of us want to do well. But if we do not do good, too, then doing well will never be enough."

~ Attorney Jennifer A. Eber



Welcome to Adulthood

This guide will give you basic information on your legal rights and responsibilities when you reach the age of 18 and are considered an adult. When you become 18, you have many new rights, such as:

- voting in local and national elections;
- holding a public office;
- getting married without your parents' permission;
- renting an apartment in your own name;
- applying for credit in your own name, and
- buying a car.

In addition to rights, you also have responsibilities. When you become 18, you are:

- required to register for the draft if you are a male;
- responsible for paying back all money you borrow;
- not protected by juvenile laws for any crime;
- eligible for jury duty, and
- bound by any contracts you sign.

This guide will give you answers to some questions you may have as you start out as an adult. For instance, what should you do if you have a car accident? How do you buy a new or used car?

What are your legal obligations if you rent an apartment? What are your legal obligations if you get married or have children?

Please remember that this guide provides a brief overview and information on how to obtain more detailed answers. You should always consult a lawyer if you are facing legal issues. This guide outlines many of your legal rights, but always remember that often your greatest asset is practical common sense.

PLEASE NOTE: this guide is based on New Hampshire law in effect at or near the time of publication. It is issued as a public service to provide general information only. It is not a substitute for specific legal advice. If you need legal advice, consult the section on finding an attorney and check out the resources at the end of the book.