Gold Star Standards of Excellence

2026 Awardees

The Breathe Easy Gold Star Standards of Excellence program recognizes Maine behavioral health, healthcare, higher education and hospital organizations that are addressing tobacco use and exposure by implementing strategies that support tobacco treatment and prevention.

Behavioral Health

Platinum	Aroostook Mental Health Center
Platinum	Catholic Charities Maine
Gold	Groups Recover Together
Platinum	Kennebec Behavioral Health
Gold	Kerish Benttinen LCSW LLC
Platinum	MaineHealth Behavioral Health

Higher Education

Gold	Northern Maine Community College
Platinum	University of Maine
Platinum	University of New England
Platinum	University of Southern Maine

Gold Star Champions

Kevin Hudson
University of Maine

Shelley Coull, DPT, PT
University of Southern Maine

Hospitals

Platinum	Houlton Regional Hospital
Platinum	MaineGeneral Medical Center
Platinum	MaineHealth Franklin Hospital
Platinum	MaineHealth Lincoln Hospital
Platinum	MaineHealth Maine Medical Center Biddeford Sanford
Platinum	MaineHealth Maine Medical Center Portland
Platinum	MaineHealth Mid Coast Hospital
Platinum	MaineHealth Pen Bay Hospital
Platinum	MaineHealth Stephens Hospital
Platinum	MaineHealth Waldo Hospital
Platinum	MaineHealth Behavioral Health at Spring Harbor
Platinum	Mount Desert Island Hospital
Platinum	Northern Light Mercy Hospital

Healthcare

Platinum	Boothbay Region High School School-Based Health Center
Platinum	HealthReach Community Health Centers
Platinum	Hometown Health Center
Platinum	Lincoln Academy School-Based Health Center
Platinum	Mabel Wadsworth Center
Platinum	Medomak Valley High School School-Based Health Center
Platinum	Morse High School School-Based Health Center
Gold	Nasson Health Care
Platinum	Oasis Free Clinics
Platinum	Pines Health Services
Platinum	Wiscasset Middle High School School-Based Health Center

BREATHE EASY
REDUCING SMOKE EXPOSURE IN MAINE

The Breathe Easy Maine program is administered by the MaineHealth Center for Tobacco Independence on behalf of the Maine Center for Disease Control and Prevention, Department of Health and Human Services