

10 mac



STATE OF NEW HAMPSHIRE  
DEPARTMENT OF HEALTH AND HUMAN SERVICES  
DIVISION OF PUBLIC HEALTH SERVICES

Lori A. Shilbette  
Commissioner

Patricia M. Tibby  
Director

29 HAZEN DRIVE, CONCORD, NH 03301  
603-271-4524 1-800-852-3345 Ext. 4524  
Fax: 603-271-8705 TDD Access: 1-800-735-2964  
www.dhhs.nh.gov

July 22, 2021

His Excellency, Governor Christopher T. Sununu  
and the Honorable Council  
State House  
Concord, New Hampshire 03301

**REQUESTED ACTION**

Pursuant to New Hampshire RSA 21-I:54, authorize the Department of Health and Human Services, Division for Public Health Services, to retroactively continue one full-time temporary Laboratory Scientist I, position #8T2975, salary grade 16 and one full-time temporary Planning Analyst/Data Systems, position #8T2976, salary grade 24 effective May 19, 2021 upon Governor and Council approval through May 19, 2022. 54% General Funds and 46% Federal Funds.

Funding is available as follows:

		FY 2021	FY 2022
05-95-90-901010-79650000-050-500109 - 100% General	Part Time Salaries	\$5,879	\$45,074
05-95-90-901010-79650000-060-500601 - 100% General	Benefits	\$2,399	\$19,565
05-95-90-903010-19010000-050-500109 - 100% Federal	Part Time Salaries	\$4,975	\$38,140
05-95-90-903010-19010000-060-500601 - 100% Federal	Benefits	\$2,074	\$16,889

**EXPLANATION**

This request is retroactive because the financial management staff of the Division has been working over capacity since the onset of the COVID-19 pandemic. The financial response needed to cover the everyday regular work coupled with the overwhelming amounts of work required for the pandemic response caused staff to overlook the expiration of these positions.

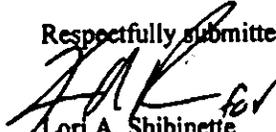
The Laboratory Scientist position was established for the Division's COVID-19 response, and was approved in the Governor's' Approval letter signed July 21, 2020. This position was created with ELC funding to perform COVID-19 testing in the Public Health Laboratory. Performance of COVID-19 testing is vital to the state's pandemic response. The current volume of COVID-19 testing continues to exceed the PHL's regular capacity, and additional staff are essential to meet current demands. The position will provide for the increased needs caused by the COVID-19 public health event. The position will be needed while the event is ongoing.

The Health Professions Data Center (HPDC) was developed in 2013 and the data collection processes implemented in 2015. With recent legislation (HB 127, Laws of 2019) requiring workforce survey completion by all licensed health care providers under participating licensing boards, the HPDC is required to conduct regular provider tracking and direct provider follow up to ensure licensees are complying with the survey requirement as a condition of license renewal. Requiring that all licensees complete the survey requirement also results in more data to collect and manage; and time dedicated to cleaning, analyzing and issuing reports on all participating

His Excellency, Governor Christopher T. Sununu  
and the Honorable Council  
Page 2 of 2

provider types (15). Currently, the HPDC collects survey data from 11 provider types under seven (7) licensing boards and expects to onboard two (2) additional licensing boards representing four (4) provider types in the next two (2) years. Each year, the HPDC can expect to collect, track, and manage upwards of 7,000 provider surveys. There are two positions that are responsible for this work including the current employee. The Planning Analyst/Data Systems position works closely with the Health Professions Data Center Manager, to ensure reporting requirements outlined in the statute are met.

Respectfully submitted,



Lori A. Shibinette  
Commissioner