



STATE OF NEW HAMPSHIRE

77A - 9/2/26

DEPARTMENT OF HEALTH AND HUMAN SERVICES

OFFICE OF THE COMMISSIONER

Lori A. Weaver
Commissioner

129 PLEASANT STREET, CONCORD, NH 03301-3857

603-271-9200 1-800-852-3345 Ext. 9200

Fax: 603-271-4912 TDD Access: 1-800-735-2964 www.dhhs.nh.gov

Morissa S. Henn
Deputy Commissioner

August 24, 2026

Her Excellency, Governor Kelly A. Ayotte
and the Honorable Council
State House
Concord, NH 03301

REQUESTED ACTION

Pursuant to New Hampshire RSA 94:6, the Department of Health and Human Services (DHHS) respectfully requests to place Lisa Dekutoski at Step 5 for the Director, Division of Economic Stability (DES), Position 9U420, unclassified salary grade II, earning \$129,583.00, effective September 4, 2026, upon Governor and Council approval. 48.74% General Funds, 51.26% Federal Funds.

EXPLANATION

The Division of Economic Stability plays a key role in promoting a more comprehensive and integrated approach to serving and advancing the health, economic, and social well-being of individuals, families, children, and communities. DES has approximately 600 staff positions in three core Bureaus: Family Assistance, Child Support Services, and Employment Supports. This position provides leadership, direction and oversight in all strategic, business and operational aspects of the DES, and performs a key leadership role in a person-centric model, with DES staff, federal and state partners, community partners, and constituents. This includes directing and implementing statewide division objectives, programs, policy, and project initiatives, and managing overall staffing, administrative, operational and fiscal functions. The position requires a minimum of ten years of experience in high level supervisory, administrative, or business management work in a large public or private organization having responsibility for policy making decisions, with at least five years of experience in the field of health and human services.

The Director of DES will be responsible for leading the organization in streamlining the various eligibility and service provision processes, eliminating barriers and creating a more flexible and responsive approach to service delivery within the context of person-centered service approach. The position is a highly skilled, strategic leadership position with a broad scope of authority and accountability; significant and complex responsibilities across a wide and varied segment of the DHHS system and larger community; and requiring extensive experience and success in leading the administration and operations of a large human service agency.

Ms. Dekutoski has been with the Department for 25 years, with approximately fifteen years in management and leadership roles. During her time at DHHS, Ms. Dekutoski has demonstrated experience as a leader in policy and program planning, strategic planning and development, operations management, staff professional development, and employee recruitment. She has a Bachelor of Arts Degree in Sociology, is a Certified Public Manager, a Lean Green Belt, and participated in a Leadership Development Program

Her Excellency, Governor Kelly A. Ayotte

August 24, 2026

Page 2 of 2

though DHHS and the University of New Hampshire. Ms. Dekutoski is highly skilled and experienced in leadership, mentorship, stewardship, and collaboration, with excellent decision-making skills, conducting her work in a consistent professional collaborative manner and enhancing business vision and performance.

Ms. Dekutoski is currently in an unclassified role paid at step 7 of salary grade GG, at \$124,187.00. This request for promotion to the Director, Division of Economic Stability is to place Lisa at step 5 of salary grade II, with an annual salary of \$129,583.00. This would place her one step above her current rate of pay and would also be reflective of her qualifications and responsibilities.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "Lori Weaver". The signature is written in a cursive, flowing style.

Lori A. Weaver
Commissioner

LISA M. DEKUTOSKI

Director



SKILLS

- Planning and organizing
- Effective communication
- Flexible
- Quick thinker
- Adaptability
- Problem solving
- Strategic thinker
- Team oriented
- Innovative
- Motivational

EDUCATION

BACHELOR'S DEGREE
Clark University
1997 – 2001
Bachelor of Arts
Major in Sociology
Race and Ethnic Relations

CERTIFIED PUBLIC
MANAGER
National CPM
Consortium/NH BET
June 2025

LEADERSHIP TRAINING
Lean Green Belt
October 2025
NH DHHS UNH Leadership
Development Program
December 2024
NH DHHS Project
Management
October 2023

COMMISSIONERS AWARD
NH Certified Public Manager
June 2025

REFERENCES

Available upon request

CAREER SUMMARY

Dedicated human services leader with 25 years of progressive DHHS experience in child welfare and child support. Forward-thinking leader known for empowering staff, strengthening cross-agency collaboration, and improving statewide service delivery. Skilled in leading complex programs, guiding teams through change, improving service delivery systems, and applying data-driven decision-making. Highly organized, adaptable, and effective at motivating staff, strengthening partnerships, and advancing statewide priorities.

PROFESSIONAL EXPERIENCE

NH DHHS, DIVISION OF ECONOMIC STABILITY		MAR 2014 – PRESENT
Bureau of Child Support Services		
11/2021 to Present	Bureau Chief/IV-D Director	
01/2020 to 11/2021	Supervisor V-Laconia District Office	
06/2018 to 07/2019	Chief Administrator IV-Operations, Policy, Planning, & Training	
04/2016 to 06/2018	Regional Administrator II-Field Operations – District Offices	
03/2014 to 04/2016	Supervisor V-Conway District Office	

Serves as the NH IV-D Director, leading and directing statewide operations for the Bureau of Child Support Services, including policy development, budget, legislative activities, operational planning, and resource allocation to ensure full compliance with state and federal requirements. Champions initiatives by evaluating statewide program performance, identifying modernization opportunities, and implementing short- and long-term goals aligned with departmental priorities. Drives system improvements across district offices, enhancing program quality, operational efficiency, and fiscal integrity. Strengthens cross-agency coordination and collaboration with courts, partner agencies, and community stakeholders to support integrated service delivery. Oversees statewide personnel management, including hiring, performance evaluations, and workforce development. Leads the development of training programs, outreach materials, and program communications, and contributes to legislative and administrative rulemaking to advance statewide child support objectives.

NH DHHS, DIVISION FOR CHILDREN, YOUTH, AND FAMILIES		AUG 2001 – MAR 2014
Child Protective Services		
05/2007 to 03/2014	Child Protective Services Worker IV-Supervisory Responsibilities	
12/2005 to 03/2014	Child Protective Services Worker III & IV-Family Services	
08/2001 to 12/2005	Child Protective Services Worker I, II, & III-Assessments	

Responsible for supervising and coordinating services for ongoing child protection cases involving abuse and neglect in accordance with NH state law. Conducted continuous safety assessments, completed investigations, forensic interviews, and monitored parental compliance with court orders while making recommendations to the Court regarding case dispositions and out-of-home placements. Provided in-home supports to children and families and collaborated closely with service providers, law enforcement, and multidisciplinary partners. Prepared court documentation and delivered testimony. Supervised a subordinate employee (9/2011–03/2014) and provided district office supervisory coverage as needed.