

OFFICE OF PROFESSIONAL LICENSURE AND CERTIFICATION
STATE OF NEW HAMPSHIRE

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Executive Director

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HALLIE PENTHENY
Director of Finance



January 2, 2019

The Honorable Mary Jane Wallner, Chairman
Fiscal Committee of the General Court
State House
Concord, New Hampshire 03301

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

[Signature]
Approved by Fiscal Committee

2/8/19
Date

REQUESTED ACTION

1. Pursuant to RSA 14:30-a, VI, authorize the Office of Professional Licensure and Certification, Division of Health Professionals – Board of Pharmacy, to accept and expend funds from the Department of Health and Human Services through two separate grants in the amount not to exceed \$218,376 for the enhancement of the New Hampshire Prescription Drug Monitoring Programs (PDMP) software to improve opioid-related surveillance, and to complete a Data Audit and Compliance Project, effective upon Fiscal Committee and Governor and Council approval to June 30, 2019. 100% Transfer Funds (Transfer from DHHS Federal Funds)
2. Pursuant to RSA 124:15, and contingent upon approval of Requested Action #1, authorize the Office of Professional Licensure and Certification, Division of Health Professionals – Board of Pharmacy, to establish a temporary part-time position, Class 050, Compliance Investigator/Inspector (LG 27) and, temporary part-time position, Class 050, Assistant Inspector/Program Specialist I (LG 19), effective upon Fiscal Committee and Governor and Council approval to June 30, 2019. 100% Transfer Funds.

The Honorable Mary Jane Wallner, Chairman
 Fiscal Committee of the General Court
 His Excellency, Governor Christopher T. Sununu
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January 2, 2019
 Page 2

Funds are to be budgeted in 01-21-21-215010-52030000 – Health Professionals/Prescription Drug Monitoring Program (PDMP) for fiscal year 2019 as follows:

CLASS	DESCRIPTION	CURRENT AUTHORIZED FY2019 BUDGET	REQUESTED ACTION	REVISED AUTHORIZED FY2019 BUDGET
Expenses:				
020-500200	Current Expenses	\$700	\$487	\$1,187
026-500251	Organizational Dues	\$200	\$0	\$200
027-582703	Transfers to DoIT	\$1,900	\$0	\$1,900
028-582814	Transfers to General Services	\$3,490	\$3,200	\$6,690
030-500301	Equipment	\$2,047	\$7,868	\$9,915
038-500175	Software	\$16,500	\$0	\$16,500
039-500188	Telecommunications	\$1,440	\$960	\$2,400
042-500620	Post-Retirement Benefits	\$11,368	\$0	\$11,368
046-500464	Consultants	\$10,200	\$0	\$10,200
050-500109	Temp Part Time	\$0	\$44,024	\$44,024
059-500464	Temp Full Time	\$191,215	\$0	\$191,215
060-500602	Benefits	\$82,988	\$8,787	\$91,775
070-500706	In State Travel Reimbursement	\$4,508	\$8,050	\$12,558
102-500731	Contracts for Program Services	\$35,715	\$0	\$35,715
103-502507	Contracts for Operational Services	\$166,960	\$145,000	\$311,960
TOTALS:	Expenses	\$529,231	\$218,376	\$747,607
Source of Funds				
Revenues:				
009-401347	Agency Income (Transfer Funds)	\$322,756	\$218,376	\$541,132
UUU-402067	Misc. Income (General Funds)	\$206,475	\$0	\$206,475
TOTALS:	Revenues	\$529,231	\$218,376	\$747,607

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January 2, 2019

Page 2

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January 2, 2019

Page 3

EXPLANATION

Approval of this request will allow the Office of Professional Licensure and Certification to support activities for improving opioid related surveillance functionality within its current database. The funding provided by DHHS will be applied to upgrade the existing software system used by the PDMP to generate critical reports to audit and monitor the veracity of opioid dispensing data collected state-wide, which will be used to better understand the data at the prescriber and pharmacist level. This project will improve the underlying data set that will be used to create aggregate reporting and information to DHHS and other state stakeholders. PDMP will provide aggregated reports to DHHS, as available, regarding the new information generated as a result of the software enhancement, including but not limited to the identification of red-flag indicators such as high dose therapy, dangerous combination therapies and treatment duration. By providing the PDMP the capacity to leverage our data to create these reports, it is possible that crucial information from prescribers and pharmacists regarding opioid prescriptions may be identified. This identification and continued surveillance of data is a key element in combating the opioid crisis in New Hampshire and the rising resident deaths due to opioid overdoses.

Funding provided by DHHS from the HRSA and OPIS S2 grants will be used by the PDMP to purchase and maintain software to promote optimal opioid prescribing practices by dentists and other prescribers. PDMP will purchase Prescriber Report Enhancement software in the first year of the project and will pay for maintenance in project years one through four. Prescriber Reports will automatically generate a semi-annual individualized report that is electronically delivered to prescribers of controlled substances. This provides information regarding current prescribing volumes, behaviors and PDMP use, as well as the ability to track changes in the following metrics over time: (1) red flag indicators such as high dose therapy, dangerous combination therapies, and treatment duration; (2) prescribing behaviors compared to others in their specialty field e.g. general dentists or oral surgeons; (3) summaries of patient and prescription volumes; (4) possible prescription shoppers or pharmacy shoppers for whom they wrote prescriptions; (5) summary of PDMP usage showing the number of requests by the dentist (or other prescribers), their delegate, and the average PDMP usage by other in their specialty.

Importantly, Prescriber Reports also serves as a framework for states to deliver resources to prescribers including information about grant funded educational opportunities, web-based training resources, and other opportunities. Without access to this level of information about their own prescribing practices compared to others in their specialty, too many prescribers could remain unaware of prescribing changes they should make to reduce risks related to substance use disorder for their patients.

Funding provided by DHHS under OPIS S2 will also be used for PDMP to hire two part-time pharmaceutical experts, who will complete a Data Audit and Compliance Project. In conducting the audit, PDMP will follow a successful auditing model used by the State of Rhode Island to ensure the quality of data collected by the PDMP. This project will improve the underlying data

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Fiscal Committee of the General Court
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January 2, 2019

Page 4

set that will be utilized to create de-identified aggregate reporting to DHHS on opioids, ensuring that data is accurate.

Approval of this request will allow the Office of Professional Licensure and Certification to staff and fund the Prescription Drug Monitoring Program (PDMP), which helps combat prescription drug use and misuse by allowing necessary software enhancements and hiring of part-time staff. Should the Fiscal Committee not approve this request; the State of New Hampshire's ability to address and monitor prescriptions written, specifically opioids, will be significantly diminished.

Area served: Statewide

Source of Funds: 100% Federal Funds received by the NH Department of Health and Human Services (MOU-2019-DPHS-01-OPLCS)

These funds will be used for the following purposes:

Class 020 – Current Expenses – will be used to purchase stationary, office supplies, postage, conference calls

Class 028 – Transfers for General Services – for rent

Class 030 – Equipment – will be utilized to purchase office equipment for staff (e.g. computer for analyst and field tablets for in the field compliance work.)

Class 039 – Telecommunications – for telephone services for staff

Class 050 – Part Time Salaries (temporary) – to hire part time staff (Program Specialist I and Investigator/Inspector) that will responsible for the auditing and compliance components of the NH PDMP.

Class 060 – Benefits - for part-time Program Specialist I and Investigator/Inspector class 050 positions.

Class 070 – In State Travel – to be used for travel associated with the meetings, training and education proved by PDMP staff.

Class 103 – Contract for Operational Services – to provide enhancements to provide prescriber report cards highlighting prescriber habits and a program to allow program administration to monitor whether prescribers have queried the PDMP when prescribing opioids for their patients.

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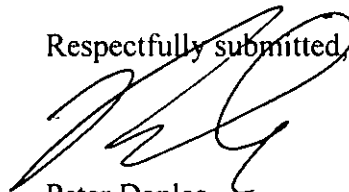
January 2, 2019

Page 5

The following information is provided in accordance with the Comptroller's instructional memorandum dated September 21, 1981.

1. List of personnel involved: One part-time position, Program Specialist I, Labor Grade 27; and one part-time position, Inspector/Investigator, Labor Grade 19 with a 30% enhancement.
2. Nature, Need and Duration: The Inspector/Investigator will assist the Program Manager by leading the review, audit and compliance of the data that is uploaded by NH dispensers into the NH PDMP for the duration of the authorized period. The Program Specialist I position will assist the Inspector/Investigator with the activities involved with the review, audit and compliance of the data uploaded by NH dispensers into the NH PDMP for the duration of the authorized period.
3. Relationship to existing agency programs: The Inspector/Investigator will be responsible as the Audit/Compliance Investigator reporting to the NH PDMP Administrator under the Office of Professional Licensure and Certification/NH Board of Pharmacy, while working for the successful outcomes of the Prescription Drug Monitoring Advisory goals. The Program Specialist I position reports to the Audit/Compliance Investigator and the NH PDMP Administrator/Program Manager.
4. Has a similar program been requested of the legislature and denied? No
5. Why wasn't funding included in the agency's budget request? This funding was granted through a partnership with NH DHHS through federal grants received to improve data integrity related to the opioid epidemic.
6. How can portions of the grant funds be utilized? The grant funds cannot be utilized for anything other than the purpose of the Prescription Drug Monitoring Program.
7. Estimate the funds required to continue this position(s)? The estimated funds required to continue these two part-time positions for a biennium are approximately \$105,622.

Respectfully submitted,



Peter Danles
Executive Director
Office of Professional Licensure and Certification