



Lori A. Shibinette Commissioner

Patricia M. Tilley Interim Director

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

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May 18, 2021

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

REQUESTED ACTION

Pursuant to New Hampshire RSA 21-1:54, authorize the Department of Health and Human Services, Division for Public Health Services, to **retroactively** continue one full-time temporary Program Specialist III, Position #8T2973, salary grade 23 effective May 1, 2021 upon Governor and Council approval through May 1, 2022, 100% Federal Funds.

Funding is available in account ELC Cares COVID 19 as follows:

	•	FY 2021	FY 2022
05-95-90-903010-19010000-050-500109	Part Time Salaries	\$7,839	\$43,115
05-95-90-903010-19010000-060-500601	Benefits	\$2,526	\$13,892

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 this position.

The Program Specialist III 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 rapidly establish and monitor key activities related to COVID-19 in the area of epidemiology and informatics. Monitoring the indicators associated with these activities are intended to assist the State of New Hampshire in making data-driven policy decisions regarding testing, mitigation and prevention efforts. 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.

Respectfully submitted,

Lori A. Shibinett

Commissioner