MEDICAID PHARMACY DIRECTOR/PHARMACIST 3
Division of Health Care Financing and Policy

Salary: up to $136,973 (Employee/Employer Paid Retirement Schedule). This salary does not take into account a 12% salary increase for eligible state employees effective July 1, 2023.

The Nevada Division of Health Care Financing and Policy (DHCFP) is seeking to fill the position of Medicaid Pharmacy Director. This is a full-time (unclassified position and will be housed in Carson City, Nevada. Statewide travel will be required.

The mission of DHCFP is to purchase and provide quality health care services to low-income Nevadans in the most efficient manner; promote equal access to health care at an affordable cost to the taxpayers of Nevada; restrain the growth of health care costs; and review Medicaid and other state health care programs to maximize potential federal revenue.

THE POSITION: This position is within the Division of Health Care Financing and Policy, commonly known as Nevada Medicaid. This position reports directly to and serves at the pleasure of the Medicaid Medical Director.

The Medicaid Pharmacy Director is responsible for identifying ways to improve health outcomes for beneficiaries, for example, by identifying inefficiencies in current benefit coverage and addressing health disparities among beneficiaries; recommending policy changes to better align state medical assistance programs with evidence-based best practices; and recommending actions to improve quality and access to care for beneficiaries, with an emphasis on behavioral health and pharmacy benefit services.

Policy development and other oversight: Actively participates in policy development activities of clinical and pharmaceutical teams. Provide clinical expertise for the Pharmacy Services Unit for the Drug Utilization Review (DUR) and Retrospective DUR Programs to identify trends and patterns indicating the need for utilization controls or prior authorization criteria. Performs clinical reviews for the Lock-in Program and assist with patient-specific issues as they arise.

Performs other oversight activities as assigned by the Medicaid Medical Director. Assists in responding to requests for information from legislators, other state agencies, and stakeholders.

Oversees policy and processes around clinical editing tools, prior authorizations and clinical edits, Preferred Drug List edits, and perform evidence-based therapeutic class reviews. Joins the managed care organization (MCO) pharmacy programs meetings, working closely with pharmacists at each MCO to ensure consistency across the program where appropriate.

Collaborates with other clinical staff, especially the Medicaid Medical Director and quality department, to ensure that pharmaceutical policy aligns with other clinical policies. Interacts with key stakeholders on a regular basis, representing DHCFP at public meetings, the legislature, state and national committees/boards, and others as appropriate.

Participates in the federally mandated hearings program and assists with defending actions taken by Nevada Medicaid at Administrative Law Hearings. This includes, but is not limited to: attending internal and external meetings, Fair Hearings,
and Hearing Preparation Meetings for both recipients and providers; providing a detailed explanation of the basis for actions taken by Nevada Medicaid, to include the clinical rationale when the action is related to medical necessity; performing additional clinical reviews upon request for hearing related matters, providing expert witness testimony at hearings (in person, telephone and videoconference) that is consistent with the action taken by Nevada Medicaid; modifying or adjusting actions taken in accordance with decisions issued by the Hearing Officer.

Implement Medicaid initiatives designed to create a best-in-class program that provides needed services to the State’s most vulnerable population in a sustainable fashion.

QUALIFICATIONS: Doctor of Pharmacy (Pharm.D.) or Bachelor of Science in Pharmacy and current, unrestricted license to practice in any state, or ability to obtain a license to practice in the State of Nevada are required. Minimum of five years’ experience as a pharmacist required. Completion of a residency is preferred. Government or pharmacy benefit management experience is also preferred, but not required with exposure to: utilization management, peer review, case management, denial/appeals, disease management, and provider relations. This position requires domestic travel (up to 25%, location dependent). A basic understanding of pharmacy economics as it relates to health policy decisions is preferred in addition to knowledge of pharmacy-managed care, home care, regulatory, and clinical pharmacy.

An ideal candidate is someone who has interest in population health and the link between social determinants of health (SDH) and clinical outcomes; is an effective communicator; and is capable of analyzing and synthesizing relevant information and presenting in a concise and policy-relevant manner.

BENEFITS: Medical, dental, vision care, life and disability insurance program; paid holidays; generous leave benefits and contribution to the secure defined-benefit retirement plan (NV PERS). State employees do not contribute to Social Security. Long-term employees enjoy additional benefits. For additional information, please visit the Nevada Division of Human Resource Management at http://hr.nv.gov/, the Nevada Public Employees Benefits at http://pebp.state.nv.us/, and the Public Employees Retirement System of Nevada at http://nvpers.org/.

SPECIAL NOTES: Fingerprinting and a background investigation through the FBI and DPS are required. The employee is responsible for all background check fees upon hiring, plus additional fees for rolling fingerprints.

TO APPLY: Please submit your Curriculum Vitae which details your experience, responsibilities, the nature and size of the organization/programs you worked for, salary history, reasons for leaving prior employment, and professional references to:

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SELECTION PROCESS: Application material will be screened based on the qualifications; those candidates deemed most qualified will be invited to interview. Announcement will remain open until recruitment needs are satisfied.