

Office of State Budget and Management
Establish New, Receipt-Supported Positions
(G.S. 143-34.1)

NC Agency/Department: Health and Human Services

Division:

Public Health

DPH Section: Epidemiology

DPH Branch/Unit:

State Public Health

Budget Code: 14430

Laboratory

Center Title: Virology/Serology

Center Number: 1560-5665

***** Position Information *****

Proposed Classification: Medical Laboratory Technologist II

Proposed Salary Grade: 70

Salary Range: \$32,940 - \$51,044

Proposed Effective Date: December 1, 2004

Number of Positions: 2.00

	<u>Center Authorized Budget</u>	<u>Current Request</u>
Total Budget	\$ 470,384	122,698
Receipts	\$ 61,845	122,698
Appropriation	\$ 408,539	\$0

Funding Source(s): Medicaid Receipts: Account 538375

Justification for Position (including description of duties and responsibilities):

The State Laboratory of Public Health (SLPH) provides routine HIV-1 antibody testing services to Local Health Departments and non-traditional test sites, and approximately 110,000 HIV antibody tests are performed annually at the SLPH. Between November 2002 and summer of 2004, the SLPH, the HIV/STD Prevention and Care Branch and HIV researchers at UNC-Chapel Hill, have developed and conducted a unique testing program ("STAT") monitoring for acute HIV infection in patients with undetectable antibody to HIV. Thus far, the "STAT" HIV RNA Testing Initiative has detected 38 cases of acute HIV infection in approximately 200,000 antibody negative patients. This Initiative involves sophisticated multi-stage pooling of HIV antibody negative sera and subsequent testing for HIV RNA in serum to detect patients in the acute phase of HIV infection. Two additional Medical Laboratory Technologist II positions (SG 70) will be managing testing processes related to acute HIV infection; for creating the multi-stage pools and conducting subsequent nucleic acid amplified tests (NAATs) using ultrasensitive technology to identify patients acutely infected with HIV-1; for coordinating specimen sharing with the CDC and/or other reference laboratories for anti-retroviral resistance testing or nucleic acid sequence determinations; and for liaison with HIV/STD Prevention and Care Branch personnel to ensure that subsequent field personnel are alerted for patient notification and appropriate treatment.

Statutory Reference for Request, if any:

Allyn Guffey

Name of Presenter

Agency Head Signature

Director, DHHS Div. of Budget & Analysis

Title

State Budget Officer Signature