

# **Opioid Laboratory Testing**

(FY2019 Appropriation Act - Public Act 207 of 2018)

**December 1, 2018**

**Sec. 1170. (1) From the funds appropriated in part 1 for laboratory services, the department shall allocate \$1,000,000.00 for enhanced laboratory testing of opioids in cases of drug overdose deaths in order to accurately identify all prescription and nonprescription substances that may have impacted a drug poisoning death. The following provisions apply:**

**(a) The department shall award funds for the following purposes:**

**(i) Through contracts with county local public health departments, to support grants to rural communities and provide funding to participating counties to support the collection and submission by a county medical examiner of toxicological testing of human blood samples for targeted opioid analogs, and up to 5 other nonopioid substances with a potential for public health impact, for cases of overdose or suspected overdoses.**

**(ii) Not more than \$100,000.00 to continue the Michigan opioid rapid testing project with Western Michigan University - Stryker School of Medicine to perform postmortem toxicological testing of human blood samples for targeted opioid analogs, and up to 5 other nonopioid substances with a potential for public health impact, for cases of overdose or suspected overdoses.**

**(b) The department shall explore the development of laboratory capacity to test for natural or synthetic opioid analogs and up to 5 other nonopioid substances with a potential for public health impact. The department shall provide a report by December 1 of the current fiscal year on the requirements and estimated costs to develop this laboratory capacity to the house and senate appropriations subcommittees on the department budget, the house and senate fiscal agencies, and the state budget director.**

**(2) Unexpended and unencumbered funds up to a maximum of \$1,000,000.00 general fund/general purpose revenue in part 1 for laboratory services are designated as work project appropriations, and any unencumbered or unallotted funds shall not lapse at the end of the fiscal year and shall be available for expenditures for the enhanced laboratory testing of opioids project under this section until the project has been completed. All of the following are in compliance with section 451a of the management and budget act, 1984 PA 431, MCL 18.1451a:**

**(a) The purpose of the work project is to fund the cost of an enhanced laboratory testing of opioids project as provided by this section.**

**(b) The work project will be accomplished by supporting grants to rural communities and counties, supporting continuation of the Michigan opioid rapid testing project, and exploring the development of laboratory capacity.**

**(c) The total estimated cost of the work project is \$1,000,000.00 of general fund/general purpose revenue.**

**(d) The tentative completion date of the work project is September 30, 2023.**

**Section 1170(1) Public Act 207 of 2018  
Opioid Laboratory Testing**

**Michigan Public Health Institute**

| Category           | Description  |        | FTE  | Total Cost      |
|--------------------|--|--------|------|-----------------|
| Salaries           | Outreach Analyst-E (P11)                           | 55,478 | 1.00 | 55,478          |
| Fringes            | 35% of Salary                                      |        |      | 19,417          |
| Travel             |  |        |      | 3,000           |
| Other              | End User Computing Fee (2.3% of salary and fringe) |        |      | 1,723           |
| Indirect Cost Rate | 17% of Subtotal                                    |        |      | 13,535          |
| <b>Total</b>       |  |        |      | <b>\$93,153</b> |

| <b>Western Michigan University</b>    |           |
|---------------------------------------|-----------|
| Michigan Opioid Rapid Testing Project | \$100,000 |

The Department of Health and Human Services has been working with Western Michigan University to provide funding to process and analyze postmortem specimens for opioids (not to exceed 1,000 decedent specimens at a funding level of \$100,000.00). Western Michigan University will document the findings and provide a report.

**Bureau of Laboratory Funding**

|              |   |                  |
|--------------|---|------------------|
| Year one     |   | \$100,000        |
| Year two     |   | \$100,000        |
| Year three   |   | \$100,000        |
| Year four    |   | \$100,000        |
| Year five    |   | \$100,000        |
|              | Part-time Personnel/Laboratory Testing, Equipment and Maintenance \$100,000 a year for five years |                  |
| <b>Total</b> |   | <b>\$500,000</b> |

| <b>Local Health Department (LHD)</b>  |           |
|---|-----------|
| Increase collaboration between a select number of rural LHDs and their county Medical Examiner (ME) Office. | \$306,847 |

Previous efforts to engage rural LHDs and their county ME Office and thus increase opioid testing opportunities has had limited success. This funding will support focused outreach to communities to improve surveillance and communications with the respective LHDs and ME Office. The dedicated Outreach Analyst position will utilize previous lessons learned to strengthen outreach and increase toxicological testing of human blood samples for targeted opioid analogs. Anticipate hiring Outreach Analyst by first quarter 2019 while concurrently working to identify potential rural LHDs to provide grants to a number of LHDs to support the collection and submission of samples by county ME office. Once LHDs are identified, the comprehensive agreement will be amended to reflect this additional funding.