

# STATE OF MINNESOTA

Executive Department



## Governor Tim Walz

### Executive Order 23-09

#### Creating a Task Force to Ensure Nation-Leading Health Professions Education

**I, Tim Walz, Governor of the State of Minnesota**, by the authority vested in me by the Constitution and applicable statutes, issue the following Executive Order:

Minnesota is a national leader in delivering quality health care; providing patient-centered, community-based primary care; and ensuring health care access, equity, and affordability. Maintaining these high standards depends on Minnesota's ability to train the next generation of health care professionals.

The University of Minnesota's Health Sciences Programs ("Health Sciences Programs") provide essential education and clinical training for the majority of the health professionals who serve Minnesotans. The Health Sciences Programs consist of the six schools of graduate education in medicine, nursing, public health, dentistry, pharmacy, and veterinary medicine. Upon completion of that education and training, these health professionals practice in health care settings across Minnesota, serving individuals with a wide variety of health care needs.

The ability of the Health Sciences Programs and, in particular, the University of Minnesota Medical School, to advance the goals of the State related to primary care, rural care, and health equity requires a financially sustainable model for support and clinical partnerships. Recent trends in the health care market have driven a need to reexamine the funding and governance structures for the delivery of academic health by the University of Minnesota.

For these reasons, I order as follows:

1. The Governor's Task Force on Academic Health at the University of Minnesota ("Task Force") is established.
2. The Task Force will develop recommendations to support world-class academic health professions education, research, and care delivery by the Health Sciences Programs that advance equity, center primary care, and ensure that Minnesotans can continue to receive the highest-quality care in a financially sustainable way. In meeting that charge, the Task Force will:

- a. Review examples from other states to identify options for potential public funding of academic health and for partnerships (financial and clinical) with non-academic health systems.
  - b. Consider collaborative financial support and partnership models for academic health that recognize both the costs of, and benefits to, health professions education for Minnesota patients, health care systems, and residents.
  - c. Examine potential options for governance and oversight of any publicly funded health professions education at the Health Sciences Programs.
  - d. Discuss short-, medium-, and long-term funding needs to support the vision for academic health and the role of the State of Minnesota and various clinical partners in meeting these funding needs.
  - e. Develop goals and expectations for academic health performance related to equity, workforce diversity, geographic accessibility, and primary care and prevention that align with One Minnesota goals for Minnesota health care.
3. By January 15, 2024, provide recommendations to the Governor for state policy and legislative changes.
  4. The members of the Task Force are:
    - a. The Governor's designee, who will act as Chair of the Task Force
    - b. One member of the Minnesota House of Representatives, appointed by the Speaker of the House
    - c. One member of the Minnesota Senate, appointed by the Majority Leader of the Senate
    - d. One representative from the following agencies:
      - i. Department of Health
      - ii. Office of Higher Education
    - e. Up to 10 additional members appointed by the Governor:
      - i. Two members representing the University of Minnesota, including one representing the University of Minnesota Medical School
      - ii. Two members with expertise in health professions education or health care workforce issues
      - iii. Two members with expertise in delivering primary care or care in rural areas

- iv. Two members with expertise in hospital or health system finances, state/federal health care reimbursement issues, health care spending, or health economics
  - v. Two members with expertise in health disparities or health equity, particularly as they relate to health professions education and access to health care
5. The Minnesota Department of Health will provide staff and administrative support for the Task Force. Other state agencies, including but not limited to the Department of Human Services, the Department of Commerce, Minnesota Management and Budget, and the Office of Higher Education, will provide subject matter expertise to the Task Force as needed.
6. The duties of the Task Force are as follows:
- a. Meet at least twice per month and more often as necessary.
  - b. Identify and engage leaders, experts, health care practitioners and clinicians, health professions educators, and consumers to inform discussion of strategies and plans necessary to achieve the Task Force's objectives.
  - c. Provide regular updates to the Governor, at frequencies determined by the Chair, on progress toward achieving the Task Force's objectives.
  - d. By January 15, 2024, submit a written summary of recommendations to the Governor.

This Executive Order is effective fifteen days after publication in the State Register and filing with the Secretary of State. It will remain in effect until rescinded by proper authority or through June 1, 2024, whichever occurs first.

A determination that any provision of this Executive Order is invalid will not affect the enforceability of any other provision of this Executive Order. Rather, the invalid provision will be modified to the extent necessary so that it is enforceable.

Signed on August 10, 2023.



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**Tim Walz**  
Governor

Filed According to Law:



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**Steve Simon**  
Secretary of State

Filed on August 10, 2023  
Office of the Minnesota  
Secretary of State,  
Steve Simon