

Medicaid Leadership Institute

The Robert Wood Johnson Foundation (RWJF) Medicaid Leadership Institute (MLI) is a national initiative managed by the Center for Health Care Strategies (CHCS). The program provides a unique opportunity for current Medicaid directors to participate in a 12-month leadership development program designed to develop and enhance the skills they need to transform their state Medicaid programs into national models for high quality, cost effective care. A National Advisory Committee has been appointed to review applications and to provide advice and counsel to the MLI program. Five individuals will be selected to participate in the initial year of the program with up to eight participants selected in subsequent years.

Curriculum – All participants will take part in three separate tracks, each requiring a three-day in-person meeting. The goal of the curriculum is to increase participants' substantive knowledge, technical skills, strategic thinking, problem solving, and individualized leadership skills.

Track 1 will focus on how broad macro economic and political issues can affect, and be affected by, state Medicaid programs. Examples of topics to be covered include health economics, demographics, politics, and federalism. Track 1 will take place at Princeton University and will draw on leading faculty as well as national policy experts from Washington, D.C.

Track 2 will focus on the technical and operational aspects of Medicaid with a specific focus on building analytic and strategic capacity to improve the quality and cost effectiveness of health care. Examples of topics include coverage, purchasing and quality, health information technology, and the use of research and evaluation to drive policy and program development. Regenstrief Institute at Indiana University will co-host this track with CHCS and will capitalize on its own experts as well as others from across the country.

Track 3 will focus on developing the leadership and organizational management skills necessary to manage complex Medicaid programs within even larger state governments. Topics will include team building, strategic planning, networking, and management. The Center for Health Professions at the University of California San Francisco will be the site for this track and will provide individualized leadership training throughout the year.

Practicum - Participants will be exposed to innovation at all levels of the health care system and will be encouraged to design a practicum to help them think about how to foster, pursue, and reward innovation within their own agencies. Each applicant will propose two to three topics on which they would be interested in working during the year. MLI faculty will work with the participant to select one of these that would be used as the basis for designing a practicum. Participants will select and lead a team of appropriate individuals within their organizations to participate in the practicum. MLI faculty will work closely with participants to define the scope of work and provide technical assistance needed to carry out the initiative.

Ongoing Engagement with MLI Graduates - Participants will become part of an active alumnae network. Graduates will serve as faculty and mentors for future MLI participants.

For more information on the program, timeline, and application requirements, please visit the program website: <http://www.medicaidleaders.org>.