## DEPARTMENT OF STATE TREASURER STATE HEALTH PLAN

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COMPENSATION REVIEW
AND RECOMMENDATIONS
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## INTRODUCTION

## I N TRODUCTION

- The North Carolina Department of State Treasurer (NCDST) engaged Mercer ("Mercer" or "we") to review its compensation program for the members of the State Health Plan (SHP).
- This report includes Mercer's review of SHP's compensation program for the following classification titles (SHP preferred classification title in parentheses - if different):

| Classification Title |  |  |
| :---: | :---: | :---: |
| Healthcare Customer Experience Manager (Customer Experience Manager) | Public Health Program Consultant I <br> (IHM Program Manager) | Healthcare Product Manager (Health Plan Product Manager) |
| Administrative Support Specialist - J <br> (Customer Experience Associate) | Director of Contract Compliance (Contracting Manager) | Information \& Communications Spec III (Communications Specialist) |
| Network Operations Manager (Operations Program Manager) | Director of Contracting \& Legal Compliance (Director of Contracting and Health Plan Compliance) | Health Plan Business Analyst (Operations Business Analyst) |
| Analytics and Data Science Manager | Director of Customer Experience | Medical Director (Part-Time) |
| Bus Sys Analyst - A (IHM Analyst) | Director of Health Plan Informatics | Analytic Modeler |
| Bus Sys Analyst - J (Pharmacy Program Manager) | Director of Health Plan Operations | Nurse Consultant - A (IHM Clinical Program Manager) |
| Business Systems Analyst - A (Pharmacy Analyst) | Director of Integrated Health Management | Nurse Consultant - J (IHM Clinical Program Manager) |
| Chief Operating Officer | Director of Pharmacy Benefits | Paralegal III (Compliance Officer) |
| Communications Manager | Director of Policy Planning and Analysis | Pharmacist - J (Clinical Pharmacist) |
| Contracts Specialist II (Contracting Specialist) | Executive Administrator | Pharmacist (Clinical Pharmacist Manager) |
| Technical Support Technician - J (Website Communications Specialist) | Executive VP \& Chief Operating Officer <br> (Deputy Executive Administrator) | Policy Development Analyst (Health Policy Analyst and Legislative Liaison) |
| Data Analyst | Financial Analyst | Data Warehouse Developer |
| Data Librarian | Information Analyst | Quality Manager |
| Data Management Manager | Administrative Officer II (Quality Specialist) | Customer Experience Specialist |

- This study is similar to previous studies conducted by Mercer for the Investment Management Division (IMD) and Supplemental Retirement Plan (SRP). Consistency between the three studies was a priority.


## INTRODUCTION

## PROJECT STEPS

- Phase 1 - Planning and Strategy Development
- The project team conducted an in-person kick off meeting with the internal project team to ensure roles and responsibilities were clearly defined.
- The project team then hosted Stakeholder Interviews with SHP team members and other NCDST staff.
- The purpose of these interviews was to inform the interviewees about the process and gather a deeper understanding of the roles in question.
- Phase 2 - Competitive Pay Analysis
- Mercer defined appropriate comparator groups, identified benchmark jobs, and determined job matching strategies.
- SHP confirmed the appropriate benchmark jobs for all classification titles.
- Competitive market data was collected and employee compensation levels were compared to market data.
- Phase 3 - Compensation Framework Design
- Mercer created a compensation framework with recommended grade "slotting" for each classification title and incumbent.
- Phase 4 - Communication of Results
- This report will be utilized to present the results of our project to the various stakeholders.


## INTRODUCTION

## STATEMENT OF COMPENSATIONOBJECTIVESAND S C O P E

- During our initial engagement with DST, Mercer crafted a proposed compensation philosophy based on our understanding of the organization. For continuity purposes, Mercer recommends similar language for the management of the SHP employees. The proposed compensation philosophy for SHP is below:
- The State Health Plan ("SHP") within North Carolina's Department of State Treasurer exists to provide high-performing plan administration services for the State of North Carolina health benefit programs. SHP's ability to execute on this initiative hinges in large part on the ability to recruit and retain top talent within the industry. In order to ensure competitive compensation practices, SHP will periodically commission compensation studies to compare the existing rewards programs to those offered at similarly situated institutions. SHP will set a philosophy to provide base salary compensation to its core staff at the median of comparable organizations. This base salary philosophy will allow SHP to recruit and retain from other State organizations and from other for-profit entities.


## METHODOLOGY

## METHODOLOGY

## MARKET PRICING METHODOLOGY

- To conduct the review of SHP's compensation, Mercer used the following survey sources:
- Mercer's 2016 Integrated Health Network (IHN) Survey - Health Plan Module
- Mercer's 2016 Mercer Benchmark Database (MBD) Survey
- PRM Consulting Group's 2015 Not-for-Profit Management Survey
- Within the sources above, Mercer targeted the Health Insurance Industry scope, as available, to best represent the external market for SHP talent.
- All survey data was trended forward to December 1, 2016 using an annualized growth rate of 3.0\%, the actual salary increase for jobs in 2015 and $2016{ }^{1}$.


## METHODOLOGY

## SALARY STRUCTURE \& SLOTTING METHODOLOGY

- Mercer created a 16-grade salary grade structure to manage SHP classification titles.
- The salary structure was built with the following methodology:
- All jobs were market priced against the compensation surveys.
- The structure was built off of midpoints based on the median of the survey data.
- The grades have ranges of +/- 20\% of midpoint, and progressions from 12.5\% to 15\% (these are based on market data and consistent with market practices).
- To slot classification titles into the 16-grade structure, Mercer assigned each classification title to the grade where the midpoint was closest to the market value for the classification title.
- Some classification titles were slotted in lower or higher grades than the market data recommended; this decision was based on Mercer and NCDST's understanding of a classification title's relative level compared to other roles in NCDST.
- Individual employee compensation was then compared to the salary structure based on incumbents' current pay and their assigned grade's midpoint, minimum and maximum. Individual compensation decisions will be made by NCDST based on a combination of factors, including performance, tenure, experience and position in grade.
- The following pages display the salary structure that was developed based on these market reference points.


## SALARY STRUCTURE

## SALARY STRUCTURE

- Mercer developed this 16-grade traditional structure using a target market positioning at the median of the market.

|  | Grade | Min | Mid | Max | Progression | Range |  |
| :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: |
|  | - 10 | \$36,000 | \$45,000 | \$54,000 |  | 50\% |  |
|  | 11 | \$41,000 | \$51,000 | \$61,000 | 12.5\% | 50\% | Range widths are set |
|  | 12 | \$46,000 | \$57,000 | \$68,000 | 12.5\% | 50\% | which allows for an |
| Grade labels were set beginning at 10 | 13 | \$51,000 | \$64,000 | \$77,000 | 12.5\% | 50\% | ample range on either side of the midpoint to |
|  | 14 | \$58,000 | \$72,000 | \$86,000 | 12.5\% | 50\% | account for employee |
|  | 15 | \$65,000 | \$81,000 | \$97,000 | 12.5\% | 50\% | performance, experience, etc. |
|  | 16 | \$73,000 | \$91,000 | \$109,000 | 12.5\% | 50\% |  |
|  | 17 | \$82,000 | \$102,000 | \$122,000 | 12.5\% | 50\% |  |
|  | 18 | \$92,000 | \$115,000 | \$138,000 | 12.5\% | 50\% |  |
|  | 19 | \$103,000 | \$129,000 | \$155,000 | 12.5\% | 50\% |  |
|  | 20 | \$116,000 | \$145,000 | \$174,000 | 12.5\% | 50\% | Midpoint progressions |
|  | 21 | \$130,000 | \$163,000 | \$196,000 | 12.5\% | 50\% | reflect typical level |
|  | 22 | \$150,000 | \$187,000 | \$224,000 | 15.0\% | 50\% | differentiation between jobs in the structure |
|  | 23 | \$172,000 | \$215,000 | \$258,000 | 15.0\% | 50\% | (increase from 12.5\% |
|  | 24 | \$198,000 | \$247,000 | \$296,000 | 15.0\% | 50\% | up through $15 \%$ at the highest levels) |
|  | 25 | \$227,000 | \$284,000 | \$341,000 | 15.0\% | 50\% |  |

## SALARY STRUCTURE CLASSIFICATION TITLE SLOTTING

- SHP classification titles were slotted into grades based on competitive market benchmarking and relative level compared to other roles within NCDST:

| Grade | Classifcation Title | Min | Mid | Max |
| :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: |
| 10 |  | \$36,000 | \$45,000 | \$54,000 |
| 11 | Administrative Support Specialist - J (Customer Experience Associate), Technical Support Technician - J (Website Communications Specialist) | \$41,000 | \$51,000 | \$61,000 |
| 12 | Customer Experience Specialist, Information \& Communications Spec III (Communications Specialist), Data Librarian | \$46,000 | \$57,000 | \$68,000 |
| 13 | Administrative Officer II (Quality Specialist), Public Health Program Consultant I (IHM Program Manager) | \$51,000 | \$64,000 | \$77,000 |
| 14 | Contracts Specialist II (Contracting Specialist), Healthcare Customer Experience Manager (Customer Experience Manager), Business Systems Analyst - A (Pharmacy Analyst), Paralegal III (Compliance Officer), Data Analyst | \$58,000 | \$72,000 | \$86,000 |
| 15 | Policy Development Analyst (Health Policy Analyst and Legislative Liaison), Bus Sys Analyst -A (IHM Analyst), Health Plan Business Analyst (Operations Business Analyst), Quality Manager | \$65,000 | \$81,000 | \$97,000 |
| 16 | Financial Analyst, Communications Manager, Bus Sys Analyst - J (Pharmacy Program Manager), Healthcare Product Manager (Health Plan Product Manager), Information Analyst, Analytic Modeler | \$73,000 | \$91,000 | \$109,000 |
| 17 | Director of Contract Compliance (Contracting Manager), Network Operations Manager (Operations Program Manager), Data Warehouse Developer | \$82,000 | \$102,000 | \$122,000 |
| 18 | Nurse Consultant - A (IHM Clinical Program Manager), Nurse Consultant - J (IHM Clinical Program Manager), Pharmacist - J (Clinical Pharmacist), Analytics and Data Science Manager | \$92,000 | \$115,000 | \$138,000 |
| 19 | Director of Contracting \& Legal Compliance (Director of Contracting and Health Plan Compliance), Director of Integrated Health Management, Director of Policy Planning and Analysis, Director of Customer Experience, Data Management Manager | \$103,000 | \$129,000 | \$155,000 |
| 20 | Pharmacist (Clinical Pharmacist Manager), Director of Health Plan Operations | \$116,000 | \$145,000 | \$174,000 |
| 21 | Medical Director (Part-Time), Director of Pharmacy Benefits | \$130,000 | \$163,000 | \$196,000 |
| 22 | Executive VP \& Chief Operating Officer (Deputy Exec Administrator), Chief Operating Officer | \$150,000 | \$187,000 | \$224,000 |
| 23 | Director of Health Plan Informatics | \$172,000 | \$215,000 | \$258,000 |
| 24 |  | \$198,000 | \$247,000 | \$296,000 |
| 25 | Executive Administrator | \$227,000 | \$284,000 | \$341,000 |

## COST ANALYSIS

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- Mercer conducted a cost analysis of bringing all classification titles to the minimum and midpoints of their assigned grades.
- The analysis on the following page is based on incumbent current salaries and budgeted salaries for vacant roles, if available.
- The cost analyses on the following pages and in the appendix are preliminary and tentative. Subsequent to the SHP Board meeting, the Treasurer will consider SHP management recommendations on individual salary implementation decisions based on individual competency, performance management ratings, tenure, experience, job duties, and other relevant factors.


## COST ANALYSIS

## FILLED \& BUDGETED CLASSIFICATION TITLES

|  |  |  |  |  | Total Cost by Grade - Filled \& Budgeted Classififcation Titles |  |
| :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: |
| Grade | Classifcation Title | Min | Mid | Max | Cost to Grade Minimum | Cost to Grade Midpoint |
| 10 |  | \$36,000 | \$45,000 | \$54,000 | \$0 | \$0 |
| 11 | Administrative Support Specialist - J (Customer Experience Associate), Technical Support Technician - J (Website Communications Specialist) | \$41,000 | \$51,000 | \$61,000 | \$2,773 | \$15,053 |
| 12 | Customer Experience Specialist, Information \& Communications Spec III (Communications Specialist) | \$46,000 | \$57,000 | \$68,000 | \$0 | \$6,922 |
| 13 | Administrative Officer II (Quality Specialist), Public Health Program Consultant I (IHM Program Manager) | \$51,000 | \$64,000 | \$77,000 | \$15,822 | \$63,008 |
| 14 | Contracts Specialist II (Contracting Specialist), Healthcare Customer Experience Manager (Customer Experience Manager), Business Systems Analyst - A (Pharmacy Analyst), Paralegal III (Compliance Officer) | \$58,000 | \$72,000 | \$86,000 | \$3,424 | \$25,469 |
| 15 | Policy Development Analyst (Health Policy Analyst and Legislative Liaison), Bus Sys Analyst -A (IHM Analyst), Health Plan Business Analyst (Operations Business Analyst), Quality Manager | \$65,000 | \$81,000 | \$97,000 | \$2,458 | \$31,916 |
| 16 | Financial Analyst, Bus Sys Analyst - J (Pharmacy Program Manager), Healthcare Product Manager (Health Plan Product Manager) | \$73,000 | \$91,000 | \$109,000 | \$2,137 | \$33,709 |
| 17 | Director of Contract Compliance (Contracting Manager), Network Operations Manager (Operations Program Manager) | \$82,000 | \$102,000 | \$122,000 | \$0 | \$19,072 |
| 18 | Nurse Consultant - A (IHM Clinical Program Manager), Nurse Consultant - J (IHM Clinical Program Manager), Pharmacist - J (Clinical Pharmacist) | \$92,000 | \$115,000 | \$138,000 | \$24,171 | \$80,171 |
| 19 | Director of Contracting \& Legal Compliance (Director of Contracting and Health Plan Compliance), Director of Integrated Health Management, Director of Policy Planning and Analysis | \$103,000 | \$129,000 | \$155,000 | \$4,342 | \$70,218 |
| 20 | Pharmacist (Clinical Pharmacist Manager), Director of Health Plan Operations | \$116,000 | \$145,000 | \$174,000 | \$0 | \$51,560 |
| 21 | Director of Pharmacy Benefits | \$130,000 | \$163,000 | \$196,000 | \$0 | \$27,339 |
| 22 | Executive VP \& Chief Operating Officer (Deputy Exec Administrator), Chief Operating Officer | \$150,000 | \$187,000 | \$224,000 | \$26,490 | \$100,490 |
| 23 | Director of Health Plan Informatics | \$172,000 | \$215,000 | \$258,000 | \$75,164 | \$118,164 |
| 24 |  | \$198,000 | \$247,000 | \$296,000 | \$0 | \$0 |
| 25 | Executive Administrator | \$227,000 | \$284,000 | \$341,000 | \$2,685 | \$59,685 |
|  |  |  |  | Totals: | \$159,466 | \$702,776 |

## COST ANALYSIS <br> UNBUDGETED CLASSIFICATION TITLES

- For vacant roles without a budgeted base salary, a separate analysis was conducted to determine the total cost of bringing in these new roles at the minimum and midpoint of their assigned grades.



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