

G. Lawrence Atkins LTSS Policy and Research Fellowship Program ("Atkins Fellowship")

The G. Lawrence Atkins LTSS Policy and Research Fellowship (hereafter "Atkins Fellowship") with the National MLTSS Health Plan Association is a funded fellowship opportunity for graduate students with a demonstrated interest in Medicare, Medicaid and/or long-term services and supports (LTSS) to gain experience in advancing LTSS policy through research, policy analysis, and engagement with a broad range of stakeholders.

This fellowship is named for G. Lawrence Atkins, PhD, who previously served as the Executive Director of the MLTSS Association. Dr. Atkins is a veteran of more than 30 years of health and social policy analysis, policy development, and legislative representation at the local, state, and federal levels, including as Staff Director of the Federal Commission on Long-Term Care.

The Organization:

The National MLTSS Health Plan Association is a trade association of managed care organizations that have Medicaid managed care contracts with one or more states and take risk for LTSS provided under Medicaid ("managed LTSS", or MLTSS).

Our Aims:

The Atkins Fellowship seeks to train the next generation of LTSS policy and research leaders. The cornerstones of the fellowship include a grounding in the following skills with a focus on LTSS policy issues and research questions:

- **Research and Analysis:** Fellows will contribute to ongoing research projects and will have the opportunity to explore their own research questions related to LTSS.
- **Policy Advocacy and Engagement:** Fellows will contribute to policy advocacy, engagement, and education efforts of the organizations.
- **Knowledge Translation and Communications:** Fellows will contribute to policy and communications products (including policy briefs, fact sheets, presentations, and website/social media copy) that effectively communicate research findings and policy implications to various audiences.

To meet our aims, we support fellows' growth during the fellowship and beyond with the following:

- **Mentorship:** Fellows will be assigned a mentor from the Board of Directors who they will meet with 2-3 times with over the course of the fellowship to discuss their goals for the fellowship and career goals more generally. Fellows will also have the opportunity to set up as many as 4 additional informational interviews with other Board members and with Dr. Atkins based on interest.

The Role:

Fellows will support the MLTSS Association's ongoing research projects and contribute to reports, policy briefs, blogs, webinars, and other outputs from this research. This could include work on:

- Tracking innovations and data collection on LTSS delivery and financing
- Solutioning for home- and community-based services (HCBS) workforce issues
- Exploring opportunities within the intersection of venture capital and private equity with LTSS
- Educating policymakers on the value of LTSS and integrated care
- Developing policy and programmatic solutions to advance integrated care for individuals dually eligible for Medicare and Medicaid, as well as to strengthen the direct care workforce
- Educating CMS, Congress, and independent advisory groups such as MACPAC on MLTSS
- Analyzing federal legislation and federal agency guidance that impacts Medicaid, MLTSS and dually eligible individuals
- Creating educational resources on MLTSS and integrated care for state and national audiences
- Supporting MLTSS Association workgroups on topics such as enabling technology, self-direction, and service coordination

Specific projects can be further defined to align with the fellow's interests. Past projects include: a literature review of HCBS for diverse populations; an analysis of Medicare Advantage plans' supplemental benefit offerings; a state policy tracker on states'

managed care contract policies; and drafting of policy memos, Op-Eds, and other educational materials. Fellows will also join regular operational and project meetings and provide research and strategic support as needed.

The Structure:

Interested students are invited to apply for a part-time (10 hours/week) academic year fellowship. We are flexible on start and end dates and will work with successful candidates to create a fellowship schedule that works for them. Fellows will receive a stipend, commensurate with hours and length of fellowship.

How to Apply:

Submit a resume and cover letter to info@mltss.org.