

New Jersey | Jeff Brown

Acting Commissioner of Health

New Jersey Department of Health

Jeffrey A. Brown currently serves as Acting Commissioner for the New Jersey Department of Health.

Brown recently served as the Deputy Commissioner of Health Systems at the New Jersey Department of Health, overseeing inspections and the enforcement of regulations for approximately 2,200 licensed New Jersey health care facilities; over 2,700 mental health and addiction services and programs; the Certificate of Need Program; the Office of Health Care Affordability and Transparency; and major hospital funding programs such as Charity Care, Graduate Medical Education, and the Quality Improvement Performance Program.



Prior to his role as Deputy Commissioner of Health Systems, Brown served as the first Executive Director of the NJ Cannabis Regulatory Commission, where he was responsible for organizational strategy, policy, and management of a new state commission, and as Assistant Commissioner for Medicinal Marijuana under the DOH. His work included expanding access to the medicinal marijuana program from 17,000 patients to more than 125,000, leading and overseeing the first ever comprehensive regulations to underpin New Jersey's personal use cannabis industry, development of one of the most innovative laws and tax structures for cannabis sales in the country, and managing the regulatory oversight of a new billion-dollar industry.

During the COVID-19 Pandemic, Brown served as the Department of Health's lead in establishing the Atlantic City Field Medical Site and was a member of DOH's COVID-19 testing task force.

Before his time at DOH and the CRC, Brown worked extensively on the passage and implementation of the Affordable Care Act, particularly the creation of health insurance exchanges and the expansion of Medicaid, has led an association of community-based providers to implement innovative new payment models in Medicaid, and has fought to expand access to health care in New Jersey's urban communities by developing sustainable financing policies.

Jeff Brown grew up in Mercer County and graduated Summa Cum Laude from Rutgers University.