

Steve Garrison

State-Operated Specialty Care Division Director



Steve Garrison serves as the State-Operated Specialty Care Division Director for the Iowa Department of Health and Human Services (HHS).

Steve provides executive leadership and regulatory oversight for Iowa's state-operated facilities, ensuring compliance with federal and state requirements while advancing system modernization to support high-quality care for Iowans with complex needs.

Prior to his role as the State-Operated Specialty Care Division Director, Steve served as the Health & Safety Division Administrator at the Iowa Department of Inspections, Appeals, & Licensing (DIAL). In this role he directed statewide enforcement of healthcare, long-term care, food safety, and fire protection regulations.

Steve has over 15 years of statewide regulatory and public health leadership experience, in which he has served as a bureau chief of Professional Licensure, program officer for the Iowa Dental Board, investigator for the Iowa Board of Medicine and social work case manager for Child Protective Services.

Steve holds a Master of Public Administration and a Certificate in Public Management from Drake University, as well as a Bachelor of Science in Sociology, Criminal Justice, and Spanish from Iowa State University.