

Protection Agency (EPA) seek to conduct an environmental health assessment of Tribal child care centers in Portland Area Indian Country (in the states of Washington, Oregon, and Idaho). There is a significant data gap regarding the levels of lead, allergens, pesticides, and polychlorinated biphenyls (PCBs) in child care centers within Portland Area Indian Country. This research will help us understand the potential for exposure to these chemicals among children who attend. For example, *Eliminating Childhood Lead Poisoning: A Federal Strategy Targeting Lead Paint Hazards*, produced by the President’s Task Force on Environmental Health Risks and Safety Risks to Children, discusses the need for more data on lead levels in licensed child care facilities. Also, data is limited on the interrelationships between exposure factors, building factors, and community factors and their combined impact on children’s exposures from chemical agents in child care environments. Non-chemical stressors,

such as noise, number of windows in the child care center, tree cover, and shade cover in play area, will be included in data collection. Community factors, such as mapping the locations of the child care facilities, roads, and agricultural operations, will be included in data collection in order to evaluate the relationship between indoor air quality and the outdoor environment.

IHS and EPA will also incorporate follow-up outreach and education with facilities to explain results and suggest corrective actions to remediate or reduce exposures from lead, allergens, pesticides, and PCBs that are detected in the facilities. The principal purpose of this project is to provide valuable data about the levels of lead, allergens, pesticides, and PCBs in child care facilities located in Portland Area Indian Country. This project will help prioritize services and funding based on known needs and risks in order to help facilities obtain needed services. This data may help Tribes secure funding from the Federal Head Start program

and other funding sources for repairs, rehabilitations or other corrective action. This study may also provide Federal Head Start and Tribal programs with data to improve standards and initiate policy changes, if necessary. IHS will also provide indoor air quality kits to the facilities and environmental health training to center staff to provide methods and practices for preventing and controlling indoor environmental hazards. This project may be replicated in other IHS areas.

*Agency Form Numbers:* None.

*Members of Affected Public:*

Operators of Tribal child care facilities and pesticide applicators who work in child care facilities.

*Status of the Proposed Information Collection:* New request.

*The table below provides:* Types of data collection instruments, Estimated number of respondents, Number of responses per respondent, Annual number of responses, Average burden hour per response, and Total annual burden hours.

Data collection instrument	Type of respondent	Number of respondents	Number responses per respondent	Average burden per response (hours)	Estimated burden hours
Child Care Center Director Questionnaire.	Child Care Center Director .....	45	1	1.5	67.5
Pesticide Applicator Questionnaire ...	Pesticide Applicator .....	30	1	0.5	15
Total .....	.....	75	.....	.....	82.5

There are no direct costs to respondents other than time to voluntarily complete the forms and submit them for consideration.

Dated: December 14, 2016.

**Mary Smith,**

*Principal Deputy Director, Indian Health Service.*

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**DEPARTMENT OF HEALTH AND HUMAN SERVICES**

**Indian Health Service**

**Indian Health Professions Preparatory, Indian Health Professions Pre-Graduate and Indian Health Professions Scholarship Programs**

*Announcement Type:* Initial CFDA Numbers: 93.971, 93.123, and 93.972

**Key Dates**

*Application Deadline:* February 28, 2017, for continuing students

*Application Deadline:* March 28, 2017, for new students

*Application Review:* May 8–22, 2017  
*Continuation Award Notification*

*Deadline:* June 5, 2017

*New Award Notification Deadline:* July 5, 2017

*Award Start Date:* August 1, 2017

*Acceptance/Decline of Awards*

*Deadline:* August 15, 2017

**I. Funding Opportunity Description**

The Indian Health Service (IHS) is committed to encouraging American Indians and Alaska Natives to enter the health professions and to assuring the availability of Indian health professionals to serve Indians. The IHS is committed to the recruitment of students for the following programs:

- The Indian Health Professions Preparatory Scholarship authorized by Section 103 of the Indian Health Care Improvement Act, Public Law 94–437 (1976), as amended (IHCA), codified at 25 U.S.C. 1613(b)(1).
- The Indian Health Professions Pre-graduate Scholarship authorized by Section 103 of the IHCA, codified at 25 U.S.C. 1613(b)(2).
- The Indian Health Professions Scholarship authorized by Section 104

of the IHCA, codified at 25 U.S.C. 1613a.

Full-time and part-time scholarships will be funded for each of the three scholarship programs.

The scholarship award selections and funding are subject to availability of funds appropriated for the scholarship program.

**II. Award Information**

*Type of Award*

Scholarship.

*Estimated Funds Available*

An estimated \$13.7 million will be available for fiscal year (FY) 2017 awards. The IHS Scholarship Program (IHSSP) anticipates, but cannot guarantee, due to possible funding changes, student scholarship selections from any or all of the approved disciplines in the Preparatory, Pre-graduate or Health Professions Scholarship Programs for the scholarship period 2017–2018. Due to the rising cost of education and the decreasing number of scholars who can be funded by the IHSSP, the IHSSP has

changed the funding policy for Preparatory and Pre-graduate Scholarship awards and reallocated a greater percentage of its funding in an effort to increase the number of Health Professions Scholarships, and inherently the number of service-obligated scholars, to better meet the health care needs of the IHS and its Tribal and urban Indian health care system partners.

*Anticipated Number of Awards*

Approximately 20 new and 10 continuing awards will be made under the Health Professions Preparatory and Pre-graduate Scholarship Programs for Indians. The awards are for ten months in duration, with an additional two months for approved summer school requests, and will cover both tuition and fees and other related costs (ORC). The average award to a full-time student is approximately \$31,919.52. An estimated 263 awards will be made under the Indian Health Professions Scholarship Program. The awards are for 12 months in duration and will cover both tuition and fees and ORC. The average award to a full-time student is approximately \$48,500.00.

*Project Period*

The project period for the IHS Health Professions Preparatory Scholarship stipend support, tuition, fees and ORC is limited to two years for full-time students and the part-time equivalent of two years, not to exceed four years for part-time students. The project period for the Health Professions Pre-graduate Scholarship stipend support, tuition, fees and ORC is limited to four years for full-time students and the part-time equivalent of four years, not to exceed eight years for part-time students. The IHS Indian Health Professions Scholarship provides stipend support, tuition, fees, and ORC and is limited to four years for full-time students and the part-time equivalent of four years, not to exceed eight years for part-time students.

**III. Eligibility Information**

This is a limited competition announcement. New and continuation scholarship awards are limited to "Indians" as defined at 25 U.S.C. Section 1603(13). **Note:** The definition of "Indians" for Section 103 Preparatory

and Pre-graduate scholarships is broader than the definition of "Indians" for the Section 104 Health Professions scholarship, as specified below. Continuation awards are non-competitive.

*1. Eligibility*

The Health Professions Preparatory Scholarship awards are made to American Indians (Federally recognized Tribal members, including those from Tribes terminated since 1940, first and second degree descendants of Federally recognized Tribal members, State recognized Tribal members and first and second degree descendants of State recognized Tribal members), or Eskimo, Aleut and other Alaska Natives who:

- Have successfully completed high school education or high school equivalency; and
- Have been accepted for enrollment in a compensatory, pre-professional general education course or curriculum.

The Health Professions Pre-graduate Scholarship awards are made to American Indians (Federally recognized Tribal members, including those from Tribes terminated since 1940, first and second degree descendants of Tribal members, and State recognized Tribal members, first and second degree descendants of Tribal members), or Eskimo, Aleut and other Alaska Natives who:

- Have successfully completed high school education or high school equivalency; and
- Have been accepted for enrollment or are enrolled in an accredited pre-graduate program leading to a baccalaureate degree in pre-medicine, pre-dentistry, pre-optometry or pre-podiatry.

The Indian Health Professions Scholarship may be awarded only to an individual who is a member of a Federally recognized Indian Tribe, Eskimo, Aleut or other Alaska Native as provided by Section 1603(13) of the IHCA. Membership in a Tribe recognized only by a State does not meet this statutory requirement. To receive an Indian Health Professions Scholarship, an otherwise eligible individual must be enrolled in an appropriately accredited school and pursuing a course of study in a health profession as defined by Section 1603(10) of the IHCA.

*2. Cost Sharing/Matching*

The Scholarship Program does not require matching funds or cost sharing to participate in the competitive grant process.

*3. Benefits From State, Local, Tribal and Other Federal Sources*

Awardees of the Health Professions Preparatory Scholarship, Health Professions Pre-graduate Scholarship, or Health Professions Scholarship, who accept outside funding from other scholarship, grant and fee waiver programs, will have these monies applied to their student account tuition and fees charges at the college or university they are attending, before the IHS Scholarship Program will pay any of the remaining balance, unless said outside scholarship, grant or fee waiver award letter specifically excludes use for tuition and fees. These outside funding sources must be reported on the student's invoicing documents submitted by the college or university they are attending. Student loans and Veterans Administration (VA)/G.I. Bill Benefits accepted by Health Professions Scholarship recipients will have no effect on the IHSSP payment made to their college or university.

**IV. Application Submission Information**

*1. Electronic Application System and Application Handbook Instructions and Forms*

Applicants must go online to [www.ihs.gov/scholarship/online\\_application/index.cfm](http://www.ihs.gov/scholarship/online_application/index.cfm) to apply for an IHS scholarship and access the Application Handbook instructions and forms for submitting a properly completed application for review and funding consideration. Applicants are strongly encouraged to seek consultation from their Area Scholarship Coordinator (ASC) in preparing their scholarship application for award consideration. ASC's are listed on the IHS Web site at: <http://www.ihs.gov/scholarship/contact/areascholarshipcoordinators/>.

This information is listed below. Please review the following list to identify the appropriate IHS ASC for your State.

IHS area office and states/locality served	Scholarship coordinator address
Great Plains Area IHS: Nebraska, Iowa, North Dakota, South Dakota ...	Ms. Holly Blacksmith, IHS Area Scholarship Coordinator, Great Plains Area IHS, 115 4th Avenue SE., Aberdeen, SD 57401, Tel: 605-226-7502.

IHS area office and states/locality served	Scholarship coordinator address
Alaska Native Tribal Health Consortium: Alaska .....	Ms. Laura Hudson, IHS Area Scholarship Coordinator, Alaska Area Native Health, 3900 Ambassador Drive, Anchorage, AK 99508, Tel: (907) 729-4592.
Albuquerque Area IHS: Colorado, New Mexico .....	Ms. Jeanette Garcia, IHS Area Scholarship Coordinator, Albuquerque Area IHS, 4101 Indian Schools Rd., NE., Suite 225, Albuquerque, NM 87110, Tel: (505) 256-6729.
Bemidji Area IHS: Illinois, Indiana, Michigan, Minnesota, Wisconsin .....	Mr. Tony Buckanaga, IHS Area Scholarship Coordinator, Bemidji Area IHS, 522 Minnesota Avenue NW., Room 115A, Bemidji, MN 56601, Tel: (218) 444-0486, 1-800-892-3079 (toll free).
Billings Area IHS: Montana, Wyoming .....	Mr. Delon Rock Above, Alternate: Ms. Bernice Hugs, IHS Area Scholarship Coordinator, Billings Area IHS, Area Personnel Office, P.O. Box 36600, 2900 4th Avenue, North, Suite 400, Billings, MT 59107, Tel: (406) 247-7215.
California Area IHS: California .....	Mr. Sergio Islas, IHS Area Scholarship Coordinator, California Area IHS, 650 Capitol Mall, Suite 7-100, Sacramento, CA 95814, Tel: (916) 930-3983 ext. 724.
Nashville Area IHS: Alabama, Arkansas, Connecticut, Delaware, Florida, Georgia, Kentucky, Louisiana, Maine, Maryland, Massachusetts, Mississippi, New Hampshire, New Jersey, New York, North Carolina, Ohio, Pennsylvania, Rhode Island, South Carolina, Tennessee, Vermont, Virginia, West Virginia, District of Columbia.	Ms. Alyssa Janis, IHS Area Scholarship Coordinator, Nashville Area IHS, 711 Stewarts Ferry Pike, Nashville, TN 37214, Tel: (615) 467-1502.
Navajo Area IHS: Arizona, New Mexico, Utah .....	Ms. Aletha John, IHS Area Scholarship Coordinator, Navajo Area IHS, P.O. Box 9020, Window Rock, AZ 86515, Tel: (928) 871-1360.
Oklahoma City Area IHS: Kansas, Missouri, Oklahoma, Texas .....	Mr. Keith Bohanan, IHS Area Scholarship Coordinator, Oklahoma City Area IHS, 701 Market Drive, Oklahoma City, OK 73114, Tel: (405) 951-3789, 1-800-722-3357 (toll free).
Phoenix Area IHS: Arizona, Nevada, Utah .....	Ms. Trudy Begay, IHS Area Scholarship Coordinator, Phoenix Area IHS, Southwest Region Human Resources, Hopi Health Care Center, P.O. Box 4000, Polacca, Arizona 86042, Tel: (928) 737-6374.
Portland Area IHS: Idaho, Oregon, Washington .....	Ms. Heidi Hulsey, IHS Area Scholarship Coordinator, Portland Area IHS, 1414 NW Northrup Street, Suite 800, Portland, Oregon 97209, Tel: (503) 414-7745.
Tucson Area IHS: Arizona .....	Ms. Trudy Begay, (See Phoenix Area).

## 2. Content and Form Submission

Each applicant will be responsible for entering their basic applicant account information online, in addition to submitting required documents, in accordance with the IHS Scholarship Program Application Handbook instructions, to the: IHS Scholarship Program Branch Office, 5600 Fishers Lane, Mail Stop: OHR (11E53A), Rockville, Maryland 20857. Applicants must initiate an application through the online portal or the application will be considered incomplete. For more information on how to use the online portal, go to [www.ihs.gov/scholarship](http://www.ihs.gov/scholarship). The portal will be open on December 20, 2016. The application will be considered complete when the following documents are received:

- Online application is submitted by deadline.
- Current Letter of Acceptance from college/university or proof of application to a college/university or health professions program.
- Official transcripts for all colleges/universities attended (or high school transcripts or Certificate of Completion of Home School Program or General Education Diploma (GED) for applicants who have not taken college courses).
- Cumulative Grade Point Average (GPA): Calculated by the applicant.

### • Applicant's Documents for Indian Eligibility.

A. If you are a member of a Federally recognized Tribe or Alaska Native (recognized by the Secretary of the Interior), provide evidence of membership such as:

(1) Certification of Tribal enrollment by the Secretary of the Interior, acting through the Bureau of Indian Affairs (BIA) Certification: Form 4432—Category A or D, (whichever is applicable); or

(2) In the absence of BIA certification, documentation that you meet requirements of Tribal membership as prescribed by the charter, articles of incorporation or other legal instrument of the Tribe and have been officially designated as a Tribal member as evidenced by an accompanying document signed by an authorized Tribal official, *i.e.*, Tribal enrollment card showing enrollment number; or

(3) Other evidence of Tribal membership satisfactory to the Secretary of the Interior.

**Note:** If you meet the criteria of Form 4432-Category B or C, you are eligible only for the Preparatory or Pre-graduate Scholarships, which have eligibility criteria as follows in Section B.

B. *For Preparatory or Pre-graduate Scholarships, only:* If you are a member

of a Tribe terminated since 1940 or a State recognized Tribe and first or second degree descendant, provide official documentation that you meet the requirements of Tribal membership as prescribed by the charter, articles of incorporation or other legal instrument of the Tribe and have been officially designated as a Tribal member as evidenced by an accompanying document signed by an authorized Tribal official; or other evidence, satisfactory to the Secretary of the Interior, that you are a member of the Tribe. In addition, if the terminated or State recognized Tribe of which you are a member is not on a list of such Tribes published by the Secretary of the Interior in the **Federal Register**, you must submit an official signed document that the Tribe has been terminated since 1940 or is recognized by the State in which the Tribe is located in accordance with the law of that State.

C. *For Preparatory or Pre-graduate Scholarships, only:* If you are not a Tribal member, but are a natural child or grandchild of a Tribal member you must submit: (1) Evidence of that fact, *e.g.*, your birth certificate and/or your parent's/grandparent's birth/death certificate showing the name of the Tribal member; and (2) evidence of your

parent's or grandparent's Tribal membership in accordance with paragraphs A and B. The relationship to the Tribal member must be clearly documented. Failure to submit the required documentation will result in the application not being accepted for review.

- Two Faculty/Employer Evaluations with faculty evaluators identified, evaluations transmitted and completed in the online applicant portal.
- Online narratives-reasons for requesting the scholarship.
- Delinquent Debt Form completed in the online applicant portal.
- Course Curriculum Verification completed in the online applicant portal.
- Curriculum for Major.

### 3. Submission Dates

**Application Receipt Date:** The online continuation application submission deadline for *continuation* applicants is Tuesday, February 28, 2017. No supporting documents will be accepted after this postal date, except final Letters of Acceptance, which must be submitted no later than postal date Tuesday, May 30, 2017.

**Application Receipt Date: New** applicants must submit their application to include all supporting documents by the postal deadline of Tuesday, March 28, 2017. No supporting documents will be accepted after this date, except final Letters of Acceptance, which must be submitted no later than Tuesday, May 30, 2017.

Supporting documents shall be considered as meeting the deadline if they are received by the IHSSP branch office, postmarked on or before the deadline date. Applicants should request a legibly dated U.S. Postal Service postmark or obtain a legibly dated receipt from a commercial carrier or U.S. Postal Service. Private metered postmarks will not be acceptable as proof of timely mailing and the application will not be considered for funding. Receipts of any kind will not be accepted as proof in meeting the postal deadline.

New and continuation applicants may check the status of their application receipt and processing by logging into their online account at [https://www.ihs.gov/scholarship/online\\_application/index.cfm](https://www.ihs.gov/scholarship/online_application/index.cfm). Applications received with postmarks after the announced deadline date will not be considered for funding.

### 4. Intergovernmental Review

Executive Order 12372 requiring intergovernmental review is not applicable to this program.

### 5. Funding Restrictions

No more than 5% of available funds will be used for part-time scholarships this fiscal year. Students are considered part-time if they are enrolled for a minimum of six hours of instruction and are not considered in full-time status by their college/university. Documentation must be received from part-time applicants that their school and course curriculum allows less than full-time status. Both part-time and full-time scholarship awards will be made in accordance with the authorizing statutes at 25 U.S.C §§ 1613 and 1613a and the regulations at 42 CFR part 136 Subpart J, Subdivisions J-3, J-4, and J-8 and this information will be published in all IHSSP Application and Student Handbooks as they pertain to the IHSSP.

### 6. Other Submissions Requirements

New and continuation applicants are responsible for using the online application system. See section 3. Submission Dates for application deadlines.

## V. Application Review Information

### 1. Criteria

Applications will be reviewed and scored with the following criteria.

- Academic Performance (40 Points)

Applicants are rated according to their academic performance as evidenced by transcripts and faculty evaluations. In cases where a particular applicant's school has a policy not to rank students academically, faculty members are asked to provide a personal judgment of the applicant's achievement. Preparatory, Pre-graduate and Health Professions applicants with a cumulative GPA below 2.0 are not eligible for award.

- Faculty/Employer Recommendations (30 Points)

Applicants are rated according to evaluations by faculty members, current and/or former employers and Tribal officials regarding the applicant's potential in the chosen health related professions.

- Stated Reasons for Asking for the Scholarship and Stated Career Goals Related to the Needs of the IHS (30 Points)

Applicants must provide a brief written explanation of reasons for asking for the scholarship and of their career goals. Applicants are considered for scholarship awards based on their desired career goals and how these goals relate to current Indian health personnel needs.

The applicant's narrative will be judged on how well it is written and its content.

Applications for each health career category are reviewed and ranked separately.

- Applicants who are closest to graduation or completion of training are awarded first. For example, senior and junior applicants under the Health Professions Pre-graduate Scholarship receive funding before freshmen and sophomores.

- Priority Categories

The following is a list of health professions that will be considered for funding in each scholarship program in FY 2017.

- Indian Health Professions Preparatory Scholarships limited to junior year and above students pursuing the following degrees.

- A. Pre-Clinical Psychology.
- B. Pre-Nursing.
- C. Pre-Pharmacy.
- D. Pre-Social Work (Jr. and Sr. preparing for an MS in social work).

- Indian Health Professions Pre-graduate Scholarships limited to junior year and above students pursuing the following degrees.

- A. Pre-Dentistry.
- B. Pre-Medicine.
- C. Pre-Optometry.
- D. Pre-Podiatry.

- Indian Health Professions Scholarship.

- A. Medicine—Allopathic and Osteopathic doctorate degrees.

- B. Nursing—Associate Degree in Nursing (ADN).

- C. Nursing—Bachelor of Science (BSN) (Priority consideration will be given to Registered Nurses employed by the IHS; in a program conducted under a contract or compact entered into under the Indian Self-Determination and Education Assistance Act (Pub. L. 93-638) and its amendments; or in a program assisted under Title V of the IHCLIA).

- D. Nursing (NP, DNP)—Nurse Practitioner/Advanced Practice Nurse in Family Practice, Psychiatry, Geriatric, Women's Health, Pediatric Nursing.

- E. Nursing—Certified Nurse Midwife (CNM).

- F. Certified Registered Nurse Anesthetist (CRNA).

- G. Physician Assistant (certified).
- H. Dentistry—DDS or DMD degrees.

- I. Social Work—Master's degree.

- J. Chemical Dependency Counseling—Master's degree.

- K. Clinical Psychology—Ph.D. or PsyD.

- L. Counseling Psychology—Ph.D.
- M. Optometry—OD.

N. Pharmacy—PharmD.  
O. Podiatry—DPM.  
P. Physical Therapy—MS, DPT.

## 2. Review and Selection Process.

The applications will be reviewed and scored by the IHS Scholarship Program's Application Review Committee appointed by the IHS. Reviewers will not be allowed to review an application from their area or their own Tribe. Each application will be reviewed by three reviewers. The average score of the three reviews provides the final ranking score for each applicant. To determine the ranking of each applicant, these scores are sorted from the highest to the lowest within each scholarship health discipline by date of graduation and score. If several students have the same date of graduation and score within the same discipline, the computer will randomly sort the ranking list and will not sort by alphabetical name. Selections are then made from the top of each ranking list to the extent that funds allocated by the IHS among the three scholarships are available for obligation.

## VI. Award Administration Information

### 1. Award Notices

It is anticipated that recipients applying for extension of their scholarship funding will be notified in writing during the first week of June 2017 and new applicants will be notified in writing during the first week of July 2017. An Award Letter will be issued to successful applicants. Unsuccessful applicants will be notified in writing, which will include a brief explanation of the reason(s) the application was not successful and provide the name of the IHS official to contact if more information is desired.

### 2. Administrative and National Policy Requirements

Regulations at 42 CFR 136.304 provide that the IHS shall, from time to time, publish a list of allied health professions eligible for consideration for the award of IHS Indian Health Professions Preparatory and Pre-graduate Scholarships and IHS Indian Health Professions Scholarships. Section 104(b)(1) of the IHClA, 25 U.S.C. 1613a(b)(1), authorizes the IHS to determine the distribution of scholarships among the health professions.

Awards for the Indian Health Professions Scholarships will be made in accordance with the IHClA, 25 U.S.C. 1613a and 42 C.F.R §§ 136.330–136.334. Awardees shall incur a service obligation prescribed under the IHClA,

Section 1613a(b), which shall be met by service, through full-time clinical practice (as detailed on page 18 of the IHS Scholarship Program Service Commitment Handbook at [http://www.ihs.gov/scholarship/handbooks/service\\_commitment\\_handbook.pdf](http://www.ihs.gov/scholarship/handbooks/service_commitment_handbook.pdf)):

(1) In the IHS;

(2) In a program conducted under a contract or compact entered into under the Indian Self-Determination and Education Assistance Act (Pub. L. 93–638) and its amendments;

(3) In a program assisted under Title V of the Indian Health Care Improvement Act (Pub. L. 94–437) and its amendments; or

(4) In a private practice option of his or her profession if the practice (a) is situated in a health professional shortage area, designated in regulations promulgated by the Secretary of Health and Human Services (Secretary) and (b) addresses the health care needs of a substantial number (75% of the total served) of Indians as determined by the Secretary in accordance with guidelines of the Service.

Pursuant to the IHClA Section 1613a(b)(3)(C), an awardee of an IHS Health Professions Scholarship may, at the election of the awardee, meet his/her service obligation prescribed under IHClA Section 1613a(b) by a program specified in options (1)–(4) above that:

(i) Is located on the reservation of the Tribe in which the awardee is enrolled; or

(ii) Serves the Tribe in which the awardee is enrolled, if there is an open vacancy available in the discipline for which the awardee was funded under the IHS Health Professions Scholarship during the required 90-day placement period.

In summary, all awardees of the Indian Health Professions Scholarship are reminded that acceptance of this scholarship will result in a service obligation required by both statute and contract, which must be performed, through full-time clinical practice, at an approved service payback facility. The IHS Director (Director) reserves the right to make final decisions regarding assignment of scholarship recipients to fulfill their service obligation.

Moreover, the Director has the authority to make the final determination, designating a facility, whether managed and operated by IHS, or one of its Tribal or urban Indian partners, consistent with IHClA, as approved for scholar obligated service payback.

### 3. Reporting

#### Scholarship Program Minimum Academic Requirements

It is the policy of the IHS that a scholarship awardee funded under the Indian Health Professions Scholarship Program of the IHClA must maintain a 2.0 cumulative GPA, remain in good academic standing each semester/trimester/quarter, maintain full-time student status (institutional definition of “minimum hours” constituting full-time enrollment applies) or part-time student status (institutional definition of “minimum and maximum” hours constituting part-time enrollment applies) for the entire academic year, as indicated on the scholarship application submitted for that academic year. The Health Professions Scholarship awardee may not change his or her enrollment status between terms of enrollment during the same academic year unless approved in advance by the Branch Chief of Scholarships. New recipients may request a Leave of Absence during the first year on a case by case basis. New recipients may not request a leave of absence prior to the start of the first academic year. All requests for leave of absence are to be approved in advance by the Director, Division of Health Professions Support. All leave of absence requests during the first year must include the following. A written request from the scholarship recipient, an official letter from the academic program administrator supporting the leave of absence and certification from the academic program that the scholar recipient has been approved a leave of absence, has not been removed or withdrawn from the academic program and will be fully returned to the original academic program upon return from the approved leave of absence. In addition to these requirements, a Health Professions Scholarship awardee must be enrolled in an approved/accredited school for a health professions degree.

An awardee of a scholarship under the IHS Health Professions Preparatory and Health Professions Pre-graduate Scholarship authority must maintain a minimum 2.0 cumulative GPA, remain in good standing each semester/trimester/quarter and be a full-time student (institutional definition of “minimum hours” constituting full-time enrollment applies, typically 12 credit hours per semester) or a part-time student (institutional definition of “minimum and maximum” hours constituting part-time enrollment applies, typically 6–11 credit hours). The Preparatory and Pre-graduate awardee may not change from part-time status to full-time status or vice versa in

the same academic year unless approved in advance by the Branch Chief of Scholarships. New recipients may not request a Leave of Absence prior to the start of the first academic year.

The following reports must be sent to the IHSSP at the identified time frame. Each scholarship awardee will have access to online Student and Service Commitment Handbooks and required program forms and instructions on when, how, and to whom these must be submitted, by logging into the IHSSP Web site at [www.ihs.gov/scholarship](http://www.ihs.gov/scholarship). If a scholarship awardee fails to submit these forms and reports as required, they will be ineligible for continuation of scholarship support and scholarship award payments will be discontinued.

#### A. Recipient's and Initial Progress Report

Within thirty (30) days from the beginning of each semester/trimester/quarter, scholarship awardees must submit a Recipient's Initial Program Progress Report (Form IHS-856-8, found on the IHS Scholarship Program Web site at <http://www.ihs.gov/scholarship/programresources/studentforms/>).

#### B. Transcripts

Within thirty (30) days from the end of each academic period, *i.e.*, semester/trimester/quarter, or summer session, scholarship awardees must submit an Official Transcript showing the results of the classes taken during that period.

#### C. Notification of Academic Problem

If at any time during the semester/trimester/quarter, scholarship awardees are advised to reduce the number of credit hours for which they are enrolled below the minimum of the 12 (or the number of hours considered by their school as full-time) for a full-time student or at least six hours for part-time students, or if they experience academic problems, they must submit this report (Form IHS-856-9, found on the IHS Scholarship Program Web site at [www.ihs.gov/scholarship](http://www.ihs.gov/scholarship)).

#### D. Change of Status

- Change of Academic Status

Scholarship awardees must immediately notify their Scholarship Program Analyst if they are placed on academic probation, dismissed from school, or voluntarily withdraw for any reason (personal or medical).

- Change of Health Discipline

Scholarship awardees may not change from the approved IHSSP health discipline during the school year. If an

unapproved change is made, scholarship payments will be discontinued.

- Change in Graduation Date

Any time that a change occurs in a scholarship awardee's expected graduation date, they must notify their Scholarship Program Analyst immediately in writing. Justification must be attached from the school advisor. Approvals must be made by the Branch Chief of Scholarships.

#### VII. Agency Contacts

1. Questions on the application process may be directed to the appropriate IHS Area Scholarship Coordinator.

2. Questions on other programmatic matters may be addressed to: Chief, Scholarship Program, 5600 Fishers Lane, Mail Stop: OHR (11E53A), Rockville, Maryland 20857, Telephone: (301) 443-6197 (This is not a toll-free number).

3. Questions on payment information may be directed to: Mr. Craig Boswell, Grants Scholarship Coordinator, Division of Grants Management, Indian Health Service, 5600 Fishers Lane, Mail Stop: (07E57B), Rockville, Maryland 20857, Telephone: (301) 443-0243 (This is not a toll-free number).

#### VIII. Other Information

The Public Health Service (PHS) is committed to achieving the health promotion and disease prevention objectives of *Healthy People 2020*, a PHS-led activity for setting priority areas. This program announcement is related to the priority area of Education and Community-Based Programs. Potential applicants may download a copy of *Healthy People 2020* from <http://www.healthypeople.gov>.

Interested individuals are reminded that the list of eligible health and allied professions is effective for applicants for the 2017-2018 academic year. These priorities will remain in effect until superseded. Applicants who apply for health career categories not listed as priorities during the current scholarship cycle will not be considered for a scholarship award.

Dated: January 3, 2017.

**Elizabeth A. Fowler,**

*Deputy Director for Management, Operations  
Indian Health Service.*

[FR Doc. 2017-00257 Filed 1-9-17; 8:45 am]

**BILLING CODE 4165-16-P**

## DEPARTMENT OF HEALTH AND HUMAN SERVICES

### National Institutes of Health

#### National Library of Medicine; Notice of Closed Meeting

Pursuant to section 10(d) of the Federal Advisory Committee Act, as amended (5 U.S.C. App), notice is hereby given of the following meeting.

The meeting will be closed to the public in accordance with the provisions set forth in sections 552b(c)(4) and 552b(c)(6), Title 5 U.S.C., as amended. The grant applications and the discussions could disclose confidential trade secrets or commercial property such as patentable materials, and personal information concerning individuals associated with the grant applications, the disclosure of which would constitute a clearly unwarranted invasion of personal privacy.

*Name of Committee:* National Library of Medicine Special Emphasis Panel G08.

*Date:* February 16-17, 2017.

*Time:* 8:30 a.m. to 6:00 p.m.

*Agenda:* To review and evaluate grant applications.

*Place:* National Library of Medicine, 6705 Rockledge Drive, Suite 301, Bethesda, MD 20817 (Telephone Conference Call).

*Contact Person:* Zoe E. Huang, MD, Scientific Review Officer, Extramural Programs, National Library of Medicine, NIH, 6705 Rockledge Drive, Suite 301, Bethesda, MD 20892-7968, 301-594-4937, [huangz@mail.nih.gov](mailto:huangz@mail.nih.gov).

(Catalogue of Federal Domestic Assistance Program No. 93.879, Medical Library Assistance, National Institutes of Health, HHS)

Dated: January 4, 2017.

**Michelle Trout,**

*Program Analyst, Office of the Federal  
Advisory Committee Policy.*

[FR Doc. 2017-00183 Filed 1-9-17; 8:45 am]

**BILLING CODE 4140-01-P**

## DEPARTMENT OF HEALTH AND HUMAN SERVICES

### National Institutes of Health

#### Notice of Availability of the Office of Dietary Supplements Strategic Plan for 2017-2021

**SUMMARY:** The Office of Dietary Supplements (ODS) at the National Institutes of Health (NIH) has completed a strategic planning process resulting in the development of the ODS Strategic Plan for 2017-2021, entitled *Strengthening Knowledge and Understanding of Dietary Supplements*. The strategic plan is available in pdf format on the ODS Web site: <https://>