

Indian Health Service (IHS) Scholarship Program



Pursue a debt free health professions career and make a difference in medically underserved American Indian & Alaska Native Communities



About

- The IHS Scholarship Program provides qualified American Indian and Alaska Native health professions students an opportunity to establish an educational foundation for each stage of your pre-professional careers.
- The scholarship program provides financial support in exchange for a minimum two-year service commitment within an Indian health program in your chosen health professional discipline.



Part 1: Scholarship Information

Eligibility, Application Process, Timeline



Basic Eligibility

1. You must be a US citizen (US-born or naturalized) or a US national.
2. You must be:
 - A member or descendant of a federally recognized American Indian Tribe or an Alaska Native village (Category A, B, or D on Form BIA-4432) or
 - A member or descendant of a state-recognized or terminated Tribe.
3. Men over the age of 18 must be registered with Selective Service.



Eligible Degree Programs: *Preparatory & Pre-Graduate Scholarship*

No Service Commitment

Descendant and member of federally or state – recognized tribes

Must be leading to a Bachelor degree in Science

Pre- Nursing *Preparatory Scholarship*

- Must be at least **sophomore level** at the time the scholarship funding begins August 2022

Pre- Medicine & Pre-Dentistry *Pre- Graduate Scholarship*

- Must be at least a junior or senior level at the time the scholarship funding begins August 2022



Eligible Degree Programs:

Health Professions Scholarship

Minimum 2 year service obligation at an approved site. One year of service per year of support thereafter.

Member of Federally recognized tribe

Must be enrolled in the program by August 1, 2022

Bachelor Degree Programs

- Nursing
- Clinical Laboratory Science
- Environmental Health

Master Degree Programs:

- Nurse Midwife
- Nurse Practitioner
- Social Work (Clinical)
- Physician Assistant

Doctoral Degree Programs:

- Clinical Psychology
- Dentistry
- Nurse Anesthetist
- Nurse Practitioner (DNP)
- Optometry
- Physician (Allopathy, Osteopathy)
- Physical Therapy
- Podiatry
- Pharmacy



What does the scholarship include?

The scholarship includes:

- **Tuition** – paid directly to your school
- **Fees** – paid directly to your school
- **Books** – one time allowance paid directly to the scholar
- **Monthly Stipend** – paid directly to the scholar
- **Other related costs** (tutorial services, p.o box rental, travel fee) – one time allowance paid directly to the scholar

Visit the Financial Aid page of our website for more detail:
<https://www.ihs.gov/scholarship/scholarships/financialaid/>



How do I apply?

Application cycle will open **December 15, 2021 – February 28, 2022.**

Application is **online only (no mail accepted)** and can be found here:
<https://www.ihs.gov/scholarship/apply/>

You will need to create an account before you begin where you will be asked to answer 3 questions to determine eligibility:

1. Choose your US citizenship or national status.
2. Confirm your status as a Tribal member or descendant and choose the name of your Tribe or Native village.
3. Confirm whether your cumulative grade point average (GPA) is a 2.0 or above.

Based on your responses, the system will determine your eligibility and for which scholarship you are eligible to apply. Once you agree you will be able to enter your information and create an account.

All communication will be by email; please ensure the email you input on the application is current and checked often.



How do I apply?

To initially apply you will need to complete the online application and:

1. **Upload an Official Transcript**

- Download an electronic Official Transcript from your school and upload to the scholar portal or;
- Mail an Official Transcript to yourself and then scan and upload to the scholar portal.

2. **Provide 2 Faculty/Employer Evaluations** – Input the contact information in the online application for 2 evaluators and they will receive an email with a link leading them to the online evaluation form.

3. **Complete essay (Narrative Statement) portion on the online application** – You will be provided with prompts that you will need to answer concerning your goals, why you are requesting the scholarship and how your goals will help the health care needs of American Indians/Alaska Natives.

All sections of the application are online and no mail will be accepted. Once you have completed the application, please remember to press 'SUBMIT'. If you do not press submit by the deadline, your application will not appear in the system.



What are the next steps after applying?

February 28, 2022: Application will close 7pm Eastern Standard Time (EST). No applications or supporting documents will be accepted after the deadline.

March-May: Applicants not selected will be notified by email.

May: Pre-selected applicants will receive an email to upload additional documentation

June/July: Documents are processed and Final award letters are sent to scholarship recipients by the end of July.

August: Funding cycle begins for academic year 2022-2023. Stipends are deposited in accounts by the last day of each month.



Service Commitment

Health Professions Scholarships require a **minimum 2 year service commitment at an approved site** and one year of service per year of support thereafter.

Where can I fulfill my service commitment? Eligible sites can be found here:

<https://www.ihs.gov/findhealthcare/>

- IHS facility.
- Tribal facility (contracted under the Indian Self-Determination Act [P.L. 93-638]).
- Urban Indian program (assisted under Title V, Health Services for Urban Indians, of the IHClA [P.L. 94-437]).

When do I need to begin my service commitment?

- Must begin 90 days after graduation or completion of your post graduate clinical training

Is there a guarantee I can complete my service commitment at a location of my choosing?

- We cannot guarantee that you will find employment at your preferred location and if there are no available positions you will need to expand your search to any IHS area. IHS recruiters can assist you in finding a good match for your personal and professional preferences.



Service Commitment

- If selected for the Health Professional Scholarship, applicants must agree to serve in any Indian Health Service/Tribal/Urban facilities. There is a check box on the application that indicates your knowledge of this and it must be checked before review of your application is conducted.
- Failure to perform your service commitment may result in default proceedings to occur. If awarded a health professional scholarship, please make sure you read the contract on penalties and repayment conditions.





Part 2: The Application

Step by Step of the Application



Tab 1: Profile

- First tab is creating your profile and involves entering in your information and an emergency contact information
- You will also be asked to select the Area office that supports your tribe. Please choose the area office from the drop down list that supports your tribe, **not** where you currently reside. If you are unsure, please click on 'IHS Area Office Locations'.

Area Scholarship Coordinator

Select the Area office that supports your Tribe.

IHS Area Office*

[IHS Area Offices Locations](#)



Tab 2: Degree Program

- You will need to identify what your level of school will be during the 2022-2023 academic year, when the scholarship funding will begin.
- **Graduating high school students are not eligible to apply to any scholarships.**
- You will need to identify the degree program you are enrolled in and graduation date.
 - For pre-nursing scholarships, your graduation date will be when you will complete your pre-nursing classes, not when you graduate from your Bachelor program.
- If your degree program is not on the comparison chart, **your program is not eligible for the scholarship.**

Identify your level of school for the 2020-2021 academic year:

College/University

- Sophomore
- Junior
- Senior

Graduate/Health Professions School

- First Year
- Second Year
- Third Year
- Fourth Year

Identify the degree program you will be enrolled in for the 2020-2021 academic year. [View Comparison Chart](#) [PDF - 118KB]

Degree Program*

Please Select



Tab 3: College/University Background

- You will enter information on your current university or the university you plan on attending next academic year. If you are applying or have been accepted for enrollment at more than one school, enter the information for the preferred school. In the provided text box, include the names of the other schools you have applied to. You must be applying to study in the same degree program at each of those schools.
 - If awarded and you enroll in a different school please inform the scholarship office by August 1, 2022.
- You will also enter whether you will be enrolled full time or part time and indicate the anticipated number of credit hours for only the 2022-2023 academic year.
 - Do not include credit hours for the Spring/Summer of 2022; only for Fall 2022- Spring 2023.

Identify the college/university in which you are currently enrolled, have been accepted for enrollment or to which you have applied for enrollment:*

College/University: Name

Other (if not listed above): Other Name

List the names of the other schools where you have applied or where you have been accepted for enrollment:



Tab 4: Educational Background

- Enter information on any previous college/university you may have attended.
- If you have only attended your current college/university, click 'save & continue' and move on to the next tab of the application.



Tab 5: Course Curriculum Verification

- Enter the number of academic terms in which you plan to enroll in during the 2022-2023 academic year.
 - EX: If you will be taking Fall 2022 and Spring 2023 classes, the number of academic terms is two.
- You will list each course you are enrolled in/plan to enroll in **only** during the August 2022 - July 2023 academic year.

You are required to update any changes in your projected coursework prior to the application deadline. Contact the [IHS Scholarship Program](#) if you have submitted your application and need your application to be unlocked.

Number of Academic Terms (including summer school, if applicable):*

Academic Term 1

Course Number	Course Title	Credit Hours	
<input type="text"/>	<input type="text"/>	<input type="text"/>	<input type="text"/>

Total Credit Hours for Academic Term 1: 0.0



Tab 6: Faculty/Employer Evaluation

- Provide contact information for two faculty members, employers or other references who can adequately evaluate you on:
 - Educational/work achievement
 - Relationships with people
 - Potential to work as a health professional
- Evaluators will receive a system-generated email with a link to the form immediately upon submitting their contact information. It is your responsibility to ensure they submit the online form before the deadline.
 - If they are unable to see the email, ask that they check their junk/spam folder.

Evaluator #1

First Name:*

Last Name:*

Email Address:*

Phone Number:*



Tab 7: Delinquent Federal Debt

- Indicate whether you are delinquent on repayment of any federal debts
 - EX: delinquent taxes, audit disallowances, student loans, FHA loans and other miscellaneous debts
 - Deferred Loans do not count as delinquent.



Tab 8: Narrative Statements

- Prepare essay responses to three question prompts. The provided text boxes on the online application allow unlimited space.
 - A minimum of 200 words is recommended per essay response to adequately address the prompt.
- The narrative statements make up to 30% of your score.
- Helpful hints:
 - Scholarships are not awarded due to financial hardships; do not indicate that you are in need of financial assistance in response to why you are requesting this scholarship.
 - Include in your statements how you intend to serve American Indian/ Alaska Native communities in your chosen health profession
 - Include information on participation or achievements in health related fields
 - Provide insight into what led you to pursue a career as a health professional
 - Provide examples of your involvement in tribal activities.





Applicant Resources

Who to contact and where to find more information



Scholarship Area Coordinators

The role of the Area Scholarship Coordinator is to serve as a contact for technical and programmatic questions, to monitor your academic performance and to assist you with the placement process.

Alaska Area – Mr. Ryan Tubon
Email: rgtubon@anthc.org
Phone: 907-729-1324

Albuquerque Area – Ms. Michelle Aguilar Bowser
Email: michelle.aguilarbowser@ihs.gov
Phone: 505-256-6731

Bemidji Area – Mr. Tony Buckanga
Email: tony.buckanaga@ihs.gov
Phone: 218-444-0486

Billings Area – Mr. Delon Rockabove
Email: Delon.Rockabove@ihs.gov
Phone: 406-247-7215

California Area – Ms. Jennifer Magbanua
Email: Jennifer.Magbanua@ihs.gov
Phone: 951-708-4045

Navajo Area – Ms. Aletha Jamie John
Email: Aletha.John@ihs.gov
Phone: 928-871-1360

Oklahoma City Area – Mr. Jarrod Tahsequah
Email: Jarrod.Tahsequah@ihs.gov
Phone: 405-951-3714

Phoenix & Tucson Area – Mr. Aaron Arviso
Email: Aaron.Arviso@ihs.gov
Phone: 602-364-5228

Portland Area – Ms. Heidi Hulseley
Email: heidi.hulseley@ihs.gov
Phone: 503-414-7745



More Information

- Visit our website at: <https://www.ihs.gov/scholarship/>
- **Application Handbook:** goes into step by step detail on how to fill out the online application, financial details and eligibility requirements.
https://www.ihs.gov/scholarship/handbooks/application_handbook.pdf
- **Student Handbook:** goes into detail on student responsibilities, reporting requirements, continuing application instructions and service commitment details https://www.ihs.gov/sites/scholarship/handbooks/student_handbook.pdf
- **Scholar portal:** https://www.ihs.gov/scholarship/online_application/index.cfm

Any Questions?

For further questions please contact any of the Scholarship program analysts:

Mr. Christopher Eagle Hawk

Email:

Christopher.Eaglehawk@ihs.gov

Phone: 301-443-2091

- Chemical Dependency Counseling
- Clinical Psychology
- Social Work
- Pre-Dental
- Pre-Medical
- Pre-Nursing

Ms. Destiny Khalil

Email: Destiny.Khalil@ihs.gov

Phone: 301-443-4111

- Dentist
- Physical Therapy
- Podiatry
- Pharmacy
- Physician Assistant
- Optometry

Ms. Jennifer Shade

Email:

Jennifer.Shade@ihs.gov

Phone: 301-443-2312

- Medicine-Allopathic
- Medicine-Osteopathic

Ms. Christina Francisco

Email:

Christina.Francisco@ihs.gov

Phone: 301-945-3237

- Bachelor of Nursing
- Nurse Practitioner
- Nurse Anesthetist
- Nurse Midwife



Thank you!

