

ORI found by a preponderance of the evidence that Respondent intentionally, knowingly, or recklessly engaged in research misconduct by falsifying and/or fabricating X-ray crystallographic data for eleven (11) protein structures and falsely reporting them as experimentally derived from X-ray diffraction experiments in nine (9) publications and in twelve (12) deposits in the PDB. ORI found that Respondent intentionally, knowingly, or recklessly falsified and/or fabricated the PDB coordinate files deposited for all of the eleven (11) structures (PDB entries 2HR0, 1BEF, 1RID, 1Y8E, 2A01, 1CMW, 1G40, 1G44, 2OU1, 1L6L, 2QID, and 1DF9) and the X-ray diffraction data (structure factors) corresponding to six (6) of the eleven (11) structures (PDB entries 2HR0, 1BEF, 1RID, 1Y8E, 2A01, and 1CMW).

Specifically, Respondent falsified and/or fabricated:

- The protein crystal structure of complement component C3b reported in *Nature* 2006 and the corresponding structure factors and coordinate file deposited in the PDB for entry 2HR0
- the protein crystal structure of dengue virus NS3 serine protease reported in *J. Biol. Chem.* 1999 and the corresponding structure factors and coordinate file deposited in the PDB for entry 1BEF
- the protein crystal structure of vaccinia virus complement control protein (VCP) in complex with heparin reported in *PNAS* 2004 and the corresponding structure factors and coordinate file deposited in the PDB for entry 1RID
- the protein crystal structure of VCP in complex with suramin (VCP-suramin) reported in *Biochem.* 2005 and the corresponding structure factors and coordinate file deposited in the PDB for entry 1Y8E
- the protein crystal structure of apolipoprotein A-I reported in *PNAS* 2006 and the corresponding structure factors and coordinate file deposited in the PDB for entry 2A01
- the protein crystal structure of Taq DNA polymerase reported in *Acta Cryst.* 1999 and the corresponding structure factors and coordinate file deposited in the PDB for entry 1CMW
- the protein crystal structure of VCP crystal form I reported in *Cell* 2001 and the corresponding coordinate files deposited in the PDB for entry 1G40
- the protein crystal structure of VCP crystal form II reported in *Cell* 2001 and the corresponding coordinate file deposited in the PDB for entry 1G44
- the protein crystal structure of apolipoprotein A-II reported in

*Biochem.* 2002 and the corresponding coordinate file deposited in the PDB for entry 2OU1

- the protein crystal structure of apolipoprotein A-II in complex with  $\beta$ -octyl glucoside reported in *Biochem.* 2002 and the corresponding coordinate file deposited in the PDB for entry 1L6L
- the protein crystal structure of dengue virus NS3 protease in complex with a Bowman-Birk inhibitor reported in *J. Mol. Biol.* 2000 and the corresponding coordinate files deposited in the PDB for entries 2QID and 1DF9

ORI issued a charge letter enumerating the above findings of research misconduct and proposing HHS administrative actions. Respondent subsequently requested a hearing before an Administrative Law Judge (ALJ) of the Departmental Appeals Board to dispute these findings. ORI filed a motion for summary judgment, which Respondent opposed. On January 19, 2018, the ALJ issued a recommended decision to the Acting Assistant Secretary for Health (ASH) granting summary judgment in favor of ORI and sustaining ORI's proposal to impose a ten-year debarment and a ten-year ban on PHS advisory services against Respondent as well as correction of Respondent's research record. The Acting ASH served a copy of the ALJ's recommended decision on the HHS Debarring Official pursuant to 42 CFR 93.523(c), and the decision constituted the findings of fact to the HHS Debarring Official in accordance with 2 CFR 180.845(c). On April 2, 2018, the HHS Debarring Official issued a final notice of debarment to begin on April 2, 2018, and end on April 1, 2028. Thus, the research misconduct findings set forth above became effective, and the following administrative actions have been implemented, beginning on April 2, 2018:

(1) Dr. Murthy is debarred for a period of ten (10) years from eligibility for any contracting or subcontracting with any agency of the United States Government and from eligibility for or involvement in nonprocurement programs of the United States Government, referred to as "covered transactions," pursuant to HHS' Implementation (2 CFR part 376) of Office of Management and Budget (OMB) Guidelines to Agencies on Governmentwide Debarment and Suspension (2 CFR part 180);

(2) Dr. Murthy is prohibited from serving in any advisory capacity to PHS including, but not limited to, service on any PHS advisory committee, board, and/or peer review committee, or as a consultant for a period of ten (10) years; and

(3) ORI will send a notice to the pertinent journals of the following publications that require retraction or correction and to the PDB for the following entries that require obsolescence, in accordance with 42 CFR 93.407(a)(1) and 93.411(b):

- Cell* 104:301–311, 2001
- Biochem.* 41:11681–11691, 2002
- Proc. Natl. Acad. Sci. USA* 101:8924–8929, 2004
- Biochem.* 44:10757–10765, 2005
- Proc. Natl. Acad. Sci. USA* 103:2126–2131, 2006
- PDB entries 1RID, 1Y8E, 2A01, 1G40, 1G44, 2OU1, and 1L6L

Wanda K. Jones,

Interim Director, Office of Research Integrity.

[FR Doc. 2018–07782 Filed 4–13–18; 8:45 am]

BILLING CODE 4150–31–P

## 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 Date: April 13, 2018, 7:00 p.m. Eastern for continuing students

Application Deadline Date: April 13, 2018, 7:00 p.m. Eastern for new students

Application Review Date: May 7–25, 2018

Continuation Award Notification

Deadline Date: June 5, 2018

New Award Notification Deadline Date: July 15, 2018

Award Start Date: August 1, 2018

Acceptance/Decline of Awards Deadline Date: August 15, 2018

#### 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 (Preparatory Scholarship)* authorized by Section 103 of the Indian Health Care Improvement Act, Public Law 94–437 (1976), as amended (IHCIA), codified at 25 U.S.C. 1613(b)(1).

- *The Indian Health Professions Pre-graduate Scholarship (Pre-graduate*

*Scholarship*) authorized by Section 103 of the IHCLA, codified at 25 U.S.C. 1613(b)(2).

- *The Indian Health Professions Scholarship (Health Professions Scholarship)* authorized by Section 104 of the IHCLA, 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.

## II. Award Information

### *Type of Award*

Scholarship.

### *Estimated Funds Available*

An estimated \$13.7 million will be available for fiscal year (FY) 2018 awards. The IHS Scholarship Program (IHSSP) anticipates, but cannot guarantee, student scholarship selections from any or all of the approved disciplines in the Preparatory Scholarship, Pre-graduate Scholarship, and Health Professions Scholarship programs for the scholarship period 2018–2019 academic year. Due to the rising cost of education and the decreasing number of scholars who can be funded by the IHSSP, the IHSSP previously changed the funding policy for Preparatory Scholarship and Pre-graduate Scholarship awards and reallocated a greater percentage of its funding in an effort to increase the number of Health Professions Scholarship, 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. This policy continues in effect for 2018–2019 academic year.

### *Anticipated Number of Awards*

Approximately 30 new awards will be made by the IHSSP under the Preparatory Scholarship and Pre-graduate Scholarship programs for Indians. The awards are for 10 months in duration, with an additional 2 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 \$39,615.54. An estimated 263 awards will be made under the 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 Preparatory Scholarship stipend support, tuition, fees and ORC is limited to 2 years for full-time students and the part-time equivalent of 2 years, not to exceed 4 years for part-time students. The project period for the Pre-graduate Scholarship stipend support, tuition, fees and ORC is limited to 4 years for full-time students and the part-time equivalent of 4 years, not to exceed 8 years for part-time students. The Health Professions Scholarship provides stipend support, tuition, fees, and ORC and is limited to 4 years for full-time students and the part-time equivalent of 4 years, not to exceed 8 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 Scholarship and Pre-graduate Scholarship 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, or 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 only be awarded 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 IHCLA. 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 an eligible profession.

### *2. Cost Sharing/Matching*

The IHS does not require matching funds or cost sharing for grants or cooperative agreements.

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

Awardees of the Preparatory Scholarship, 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 IHSSP 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. ASCs are listed

on the IHS website 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 ...	Mr. Matthew Martin, IHS Area Scholarship Coordinator, Great Plains Area IHS, 115 Fourth Avenue SE, Aberdeen, SD 57401, Tel: (605) 226-7502.
Alaska Area Native Health Services: Alaska .....	Ms. Jennifer Fielder, IHS Area Scholarship Coordinator, Alaska Area Native Health, 3900 Ambassador Drive, Anchorage, AK 99508, Tel: (907) 729-1387.
Albuquerque Area IHS: Colorado, New Mexico .....	Ms. Jeanette Garcia, IHS Area Scholarship Coordinator, Albuquerque Area IHS, 4101 Indian School 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, (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 Fourth 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.	Mr. Nicholas Mayo, IHS Area Scholarship Coordinator, Nashville Area IHS, 711 Stewarts Ferry Pike, Nashville, TN 37214, Tel: (615) 467-1711.
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, (800) 722-3357 (toll free).
Phoenix Area IHS: Arizona, Nevada, Utah .....	Ms. Stephanie Qa'havi, IHS Area Scholarship Coordinator, Phoenix Area IHS, Southwest Region Human Resources, 40 North Central Avenue, Suite 510, Phoenix, AZ 85004, Tel: (602) 364-5225.
Portland Area IHS: Idaho, Oregon, Washington .....	Ms. Heidi Hulseley, IHS Area Scholarship Coordinator, Portland Area IHS, 1414 NW Northrup Street, Suite 800, Portland, OR 97209, Tel: (503) 414-7745.
Tucson Area IHS: Arizona .....	Ms. Stephanie Qa'havi, (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 as requested, 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 was open on December 15, 2017. For new applicants, an initial review process for scoring will be performed. The initial review process requires a completed online application and official transcript(s) to determine a rating score. An application will be rated on narrative, faculty evaluations, and official transcript(s). The following

documents must be submitted by April 13, 7:00 p.m. Eastern:

- A completed online application.
- Official transcript(s) that indicate a minimum of 24 credit hours of college coursework to be completed by June 1, 2018. Official transcript(s) must be provided from every college/university attended within the past 7 years.
  - Cumulative Grade Point Average (GPA): Calculated by the applicant and indicated on the application.
  - 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 Form completed in the online applicant portal.

The Initial Review Process should be completed by the first week in June and scores will be provided for the Selection Process.

The Selection Process will be initiated after the rating scores are provided. The

Selection Process will be completed by the second week in June to determine potential awardees. Non-selected applicants will be notified by mail by the end of June. Selected applicants will be notified by mail to submit the following documents within 30 days of notification:

- Current Letter of Acceptance from a college/university or proof of application to a college/university or health professions program.
- Applicant's Documents for Indian Eligibility.

If you are a member of a federally recognized Tribe or Alaska Native (recognized by the Secretary of the Interior), provide evidence of

A. 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).

**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 Scholarship or Pre-graduate Scholarship, 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 Scholarship or Pre-graduate Scholarship, 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.

- Curriculum for Major.
- Declaration of Federal

Employment—OMB Form 3206–0162.  
• Addendum OF 306 Form—OMB Form 0917–0028.

### 3. Submission Dates

**Application Receipt Date:** The online continuation application submission deadline for *continuation* applicants is, Friday, April 13, 2018, 7:00 p.m.

Eastern. No supporting documents will be accepted after this postal date, except final Letters of Acceptance, which must be submitted no later than postal date Wednesday, May 30, 2018.

**Application Receipt Date:** The online application submission deadline for *new* applicants is, Friday, April 13, 2018, 7:00 p.m. Eastern and mail official transcript(s) by the postal deadline of Friday, April 13, 2018.

The online application and official transcript(s) 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. 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 percent 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 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 2018.

- Preparatory Scholarship is limited to senior and junior students pursuing the following degrees.
  - A. Pre-Clinical Psychology.
  - B. Pre-Nursing.
  - C. Pre-Pharmacy.
  - D. Pre-Social Work (Juniors and Seniors preparing for an MS in social work).
- Pre-graduate Scholarship is limited to junior year and above students pursuing the following degrees.
  - A. Pre-Dentistry.
  - B. Pre-Medicine.
  - C. Pre-Optometry.
  - D. Pre-Podiatry.
- Health Professions Scholarship.
  - A. Medicine—Allopathic and Osteopathic doctorate degrees
  - B. 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 IHCA.)

- C. Nursing (NP, DNP)—Nurse Practitioner/Advanced Practice Nurse in Family Practice, Psychiatry, Geriatric, Women’s Health, Pediatric Nursing
- D. Nursing—Certified Nurse Midwife (CNM)
- E. Certified Registered Nurse Anesthetist (CRNA)
- F. Physician Assistant (certified)
- G. Dentistry—DDS or DMD degree
- H. Social Work—Master’s degree
- I. Chemical Dependency Counseling—Master’s degree
- J. Clinical Psychology—Ph.D. or PsyD
- K. Counseling Psychology—Ph.D.
- L. Optometry—OD
- M. Pharmacy—PharmD
- N. Podiatry—DPM
- O. Physical Therapy—MS or DPT

## 2. Review and Selection Process

The applications will be reviewed and scored by the IHSSP 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 second week of June 2018 and new applicants will be notified in writing during the second week of July 2018. An Award Letter will be issued to successful applicants. Unsuccessful applicants will be notified in writing and provided an IHS official contact name 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 the Preparatory Scholarship, Pre-graduate Scholarship, and Health Professions Scholarship. Section 104(b)(1) of the IHCA, 25 U.S.C. 1613a(b)(1), authorizes the IHS to determine the distribution of scholarships among the health professions.

Awards for the Health Professions Scholarship will be made in accordance with the IHCA, 25 U.S.C. 1613a and 42 CFR 136.330–136.334. Awardees shall incur a service obligation prescribed under the IHCA, Section 1613a(b), shall be met by service, through full-time clinical practice (as detailed on page 18 of the IHSSP 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 percent of the total served) of Indians as determined by the Secretary in accordance with guidelines of the Service.

Pursuant to the IHCA Section 1613a(b)(3)(C), an awardee of a Health Professions Scholarship may, at the election of the awardee, meet his or her service obligation prescribed under IHCA 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 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, that 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 the IHS, or one of its Tribal or Urban Indian partners, consistent with IHCA, as approved for scholar-obligated service payback.

### 3. Reporting Requirements

#### Scholarship Program Minimum Academic Requirements

It is the policy of the IHS that a scholarship awardee funded under the Health Professions Scholarship Program of the IHCA 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 not request a leave of absence the first academic year. All requests for leave of absence are to be approved in advance by the Director, Division of Health Professions Support.

An awardee of a scholarship under the Preparatory Scholarship and Pre-graduate Scholarship authority must maintain a 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 Scholarship and Pre-graduate Scholarship 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 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 website 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 website 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 6 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 website at: [www.ihs.gov/scholarship/programresources/studentforms/](http://www.ihs.gov/scholarship/programresources/studentforms/)).

#### 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: Ms. Reta Brewer, 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: (09E65A), Rockville, Maryland 20857, Telephone: (301) 443-0056 (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 IHSSP health and allied professions is effective for applicants for the 2018-2019 academic year. These priorities will remain in effect until superseded. Applicants who apply for health career categories not listed as a priorities during the current scholarship cycle will not be considered for a scholarship award.

Dated: April 5, 2018.

**Michael Weahkee,**

*Assistant Surgeon General, U.S. Public Health Service, Acting Director, Indian Health Service.*

[FR Doc. 2018-07797 Filed 4-13-18; 8:45 am]

**BILLING CODE 4165-16-P**

## DEPARTMENT OF HEALTH AND HUMAN SERVICES

### National Institutes of Health

#### Government-Owned Inventions; Availability for Licensing

**AGENCY:** National Institutes of Health, HHS.

**ACTION:** Notice.

**SUMMARY:** The invention listed below is owned by an agency of the U.S. Government and is available for licensing to achieve expeditious commercialization of results of federally-funded research and development. Foreign patent applications are filed on selected inventions to extend market coverage for companies and may also be available for licensing.

**FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT:** Amy Petrik., Ph.D., 240-627-3721; [amy.petrik@nih.gov](mailto:amy.petrik@nih.gov). Licensing information and copies of the patent applications listed below may be obtained by communicating with the indicated licensing contact at the Technology Transfer and Intellectual Property Office, National Institute of Allergy and Infectious Diseases, 5601 Fishers Lane, Rockville, MD 20852; tel. 301-496-2644. A signed Confidential Disclosure Agreement will be required to receive copies of unpublished patent applications.

**SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION:** Technology description follows.

#### Prefusion Coronavirus Spike Proteins and Their Use

##### Description of Technology

Coronaviruses (CoVs) can cause severe respiratory disease with high fatality rates in humans. The 2002-2003 SARS-CoV epidemic resulted in 8098 cases and 744 deaths, and MERS-CoV, which emerged in 2012, has resulted in 2144 cases and over 750 deaths as of March 2018. Currently, there are no effective prophylactic or therapeutic measures, and because other CoVs are poised to emerge as new human pathogens, there is a need to define a general CoV vaccine solution. Past efforts to develop CoV vaccines have used whole-inactivated virus, live-attenuated virus, recombinant protein subunit, or genetic approaches.

CoV spike (S) proteins mediate cellular attachment and membrane fusion and are therefore the target of protective antibodies. Inventors at the Vaccine Research Center of the National Institute of Allergy and Infectious Diseases have developed a novel CoV S protein vaccine antigen. This