

(43 U.S.C. 244m) which shall be met by service:

- (1) In Indian Health Service;
- (2) In a program conducted under a contract entered into under the Indian Self-Determination Act;
- (3) In a program assisted under title V of the Indian Health Care Improvement Act (Pub. L. 94-437) and its amendments; and
- (4) In private practice of his or her profession, if the practice (a) is situated in a health professional shortage area, designated in regulations promulgated by the Secretary and (b) addresses the health care needs of a substantial number of Indians as determined by the Secretary in accordance with guidelines of the Service.

Pursuant to the Indian Health Amendment of 1992 (Pub. L. 102-573), a recipient of an Indian Health Scholarship (Professions) may, at the election of the recipient, meet his/her active duty service obligation prescribed under section 338c of the Public Health Service Act (42 U.S.C. 254m) by a program specified in options (1)-(4) above that:

- (i) Is located on the reservation of the tribe in which the recipient is enrolled; or
- (ii) Serves the tribe in which the recipient is enrolled.

In summary, all recipients of Indian Health Scholarship (Professions) are reminded that recipients of this scholarship incur a service obligation. Moreover, this obligation shall be served at a facility determined by the Director, IHS, consistent with IHCA, Pub. L. 94-437, as amended by Pub. L. 100-713 and Pub. L. 102-573.

C. Fund Availability

Both part-time and full-time scholarship awards will be made in accordance with regulations and 42 CFR 36.320, incorporated in the application materials, for Health Professions Preparatory Scholarship Program for Indians and 42 CFR 36.370, incorporated in the application materials, for Health Professions Pregraduate Scholarship Program for Indians. Approximately 238 awards, 92 of which are continuing, will be made under the Health Professions Preparatory and Pregraduate Scholarship Programs for Indians in each fiscal year covered by this standing announcement. The awards are for 10 months in duration and the average award to a full-time student is approximately \$15,000. In FY 1995, approximately \$1,380,000 is available for continuation awards and approximately \$2,190,000 is available for new awards. Pending the availability

of funds, a similar amount is anticipated to be available in FY 1996.

Approximately 453 awards, 350 of which are continuing, will be made under the Indian Health Scholarship (Professions) program in each fiscal year covered by this announcement. Awards will be made to both full-time and part-time students. The awards are for 12 months in duration and the average award to a full-time student is for approximately \$18,000. In FY 1995, approximately \$6,300,000 is available for continuation awards, and \$1,860,751 is available for new awards. Pending availability of funds, a similar amount is anticipated for FY 1996.

No more than 20% 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 6 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.

D. Criteria for Evaluation

Applicants will be evaluated against the following criteria:

1. *Needs of the IHS.* Applicants are considered for scholarship awards based on their desired career goals and how these goals relate to current Indian health manpower needs. Applications for each health career category are reviewed and ranked separately.

2. *Academic performance.* 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. Health Professions applicants with a cumulative GPA below 2.0 are not eligible to apply.

3. *Faculty/employer recommendations.* Applicants are rated according to evaluations by faculty members and current and/or former employers regarding the applicant's potential in the chosen health related professions.

4. *Stated reasons for asking for the scholarship and stated career goals.* Applicants must provide a brief written explanation of reasons for asking for the scholarship and of career goals. The applicant's narrative will be judged on content and how well it is written.

5. *Applicants who are closest to graduation or completion are awarded first.* For example, senior and junior applicants under the Health Professions

Pregraduate Scholarship receive funding before freshmen and sophomores.

E. Priority Categories

Regulations at 42 CFR 36.304 provide that the IHS shall, from time to time, publish a list of health professions eligible for consideration for the award of Indian Health Professions Preparatory and Pregraduate Scholarships and Indian Health Scholarships (Professions). Section 104(b)(1) of the IHCA, as amended by the Indian Health Care Amendment of 1988, Pub. L. 100-713, authorizes the IHS to determine specific health professions for which Indian Health Scholarships will be awarded. The lists of priority health professions that follow, by scholarship program, and based upon the needs of the IHS as well as upon the needs of the American Indians and Alaska Natives for additional service by specific health profession.

1. *Health Professions Preparatory Scholarships.* (Below is the list of disciplines to be supported and priority is based on academic level).
 - A. Pre-Medical Technology.
 - B. Pre-Dietetics.
 - C. Pre-Nursing.
 - D. Pre-Pharmacy.
 - E. Pre-Physical Therapy.
 - F. Pre-Social Work (JR and SR undergraduate years).
2. *Health Professions Pregraduate Scholarships.* (Below is the list of disciplines to be supported and priority is based on academic level: Senior, Junior, Sophomore, Freshman)
 - A. Pre-Dentistry.
 - B. Pre-Medicine.
3. *Indian Health Scholarships (Professions).* (Below is a list of disciplines to be supported and priority is based on academic level, unless specified: Graduate, Senior, Junior Sophomore, Freshman)
 - A. Associate Degree Nurse.
 - B. Chemical Dependency Counseling.
 - C. Clinical Psychology: PH.D. only.
 - D. Computer Science: B.S.
 - E. Dentistry.
 - F. Dietician: B.S.
 - G. Engineering: B.S. Civil.
 - H. Health Education: Masters level only.
 - I. Health Records: A.R.T. and R.R.T.
 - J. Medical Technology: B.S.
 - K. Medical Social Work: Masters level only.
 - L. Medicine: Allopathic and Osteopathic.
 - M. Nurse Practitioner: R.N.A. and F.N.P.
 - N. Nurse Midwife: C.N.M.
 - O. B.S. Nurse.*
 - P. M.S. Nurse.*