

Department of Health and Human Services
Public Health Service
Indian Health Service

Vacancy Announcement

Announcement No: IHS-OCA-08-05
Opening Date: July 01, 2008
Closing Date: December 31, 2008
Area of Consideration: **Government Wide and any qualified Indian Preference candidate**

INDIAN PREFERENCE POLICY: The Indian Health Service (IHS) is committed to affording employment preference to American Indian and Alaska Native candidates who meet the Secretary of the Interior's definition of Indian for appointment to vacancies within the IHS in accordance with established IHS policy as outlined in the Indian Health Manual, Part 7, Chapter 3. The IHS is also committed to achieving full and equal opportunity without discrimination because of race, religion, color, gender, national origin, age, physical or mental disability, and sexual orientation. The IHS has a zero tolerance for sexual harassment or reprisal.

POSITION TITLE, SERIES, GRADE

- Nurse Practitioner

OFFICE LOCATION:

Bemidji Area IHS

- Cass Lake Indian Health Service

SALARY RANGE:

GS- 610-12 , \$75,025-\$92,341

PROMOTION POTENTIAL: none

RELOCATION EXPENSES: May be Authorized in Accordance with Federal Regulations

This position is neither managerial nor supervisory

Area of Consideration: Government Wide

Number of Vacancies: **Position to be filled as a vacancy occurs.** This is an open continuous vacancy announcement and applications will be referred when vacancies occur. The open continuous vacancy announcement allows this office to accept applications/resumes on a year round basis and eligible qualified applicants are placed in the applicant supply file (ASF) for a period of six (6) months. This announcement may be used to fill jobs with multiple appointment terms: permanent, temporary, or term. Your application will be included in the file of candidates established for consideration for current and/or future job vacancies. You will be considered for those vacancies that match your desired geographic locations, skills and or job preferences Applications that are complete in accordance with the outlined Agency application procedures will be referred to fill any current and/or future vacancies.

These positions are also being filled through Office of Personnel Management's Government-wide Direct Hire Authority (DHA) for this occupation "Bemidji Area DH-08-001" and are open to all U.S. Citizens. DHA The Direct Hire Authority has been authorized by the Homeland Security Act of 2002 and Part 337, Subpart B, Title 5 of the Code of Federal Regulations (5 CFR). If filled utilizing DHA, the following is applicable: all applicants who meet the basic qualification requirements will be forwarded to the Selecting Official for consideration. The "rule of three," Veteran's preference and traditional rating and ranking of applicants do not apply to the Direct Hire process. Indian Preference does apply

Selections of candidates may be possible within 90 days from date the certificate of eligible's is issued from the announcement, for filling additional similar vacancies

Conditions of employment:

1. Selectee(s) are required to be immunized against Measles and Rubella and provide documentation prior to or at the time of their start date. Special consideration may be allowed to individuals who are allergic to a component of the vaccine or are currently pregnant. Selectee must have documented immunity to Rubella and Measles.
2. Selectee(s) are required to complete Security questionnaire and fingerprint chart for investigative purposes under PL 101-630 Indian Child Protection and Family Violence Prevention Act. Persons, who have been arrested for or charged with a crime involving a child, or violent crime against a person, are not eligible for employment with IHS under PL 101-630.
3. Selectee(s) are required to complete a "Declaration of Federal Employment – Optional Form 306" to determine your suitability for Federal Employment, and to certify the accuracy of all the information in your application. Persons making false statements in any part of the application may not be hired; or fired after employment starts; or may be fined.
4. Males born after December 31, 1959 are required to be registered with the Selective Service System in order to be eligible for employment with the Federal Government.
5. Selectee(s) are required to have a viable bank account at a financial institution for electronic direct deposit of salary payment.
6. Some service units operate under extended service hours 7 days per week.
7. The incumbent may be required to travel and must possess a valid driver's license.

JOB DESCRIPTION: Incumbent serves as a member of the health care team as a Nurse Practitioner providing primary health care for your particular nursing specialty to patients at a clinic, hospital or Medical Center based setting. Performs diagnostic services, which includes securing medical histories, conducting physical examinations; interpreting laboratory and x-ray results in order to define health problems and ascertain therapy required that are typical to advanced nursing practice. Performs other duties as assigned.

QUALIFICATION REQUIREMENTS:

Registration: Applicants must have active, current registration as a professional nurse in a State, District of Columbia, the Commonwealth of Puerto Rico, or a territory of the U.S.

Education: Degree or diploma from a professional nursing program approved by the legally designated State accrediting agency at the time the program was completed by the applicant. *Evaluation of Education:* Graduate level education must have been in nursing with a concentration in a field of nursing (e.g., teaching, a clinical specialty, research, administration, etc.) or in a closely related non-nursing field directly applicable to the requirements of the position to be filled.

In addition to the above, applicants must also possess Specialized experience or Education as show below

Grade	SPECIALIZED EXPERIENCE	OR	EDUCATION
GS-12:	1-year specialized experience equivalent to at least the next lower grade level.		None, the work is recognized as sufficiently specialized that graduate study alone may not provide the knowledge and skills needed to perform the work.
Equivalent combinations of education and experience are qualifying for which both education and experience are acceptable.			

Proof of meeting the condition for the above specialty must be submitted along with your application. Failure to submit a copy to verify that the selective placement factor is met will cause loss in consideration for the position Applicants must have 52 weeks of specialized experience equivalent to at least the GS-11 level.

COMPETITIVE AND EXCEPTED SERVICE QUALIFICATION REQUIREMENT: (Education & Experience)

The basic qualifications for this position are in the Operating Manual for Qualification Standards for General Schedule Positions click on link below:

<http://www.opm.gov/SEC-IV/B/GS0600/0610.HTM>

GS-12: Candidate must have 1 year of specialized experience equivalent to at least the GS-11 grade level.

SPECIALIZED EXPERIENCE:

Specialized Experience: Experience that equipped the applicant with the particular knowledge, skills, and abilities to perform successfully the duties of the position, and that is typically in or related to the work of the position to be filled. To be creditable, specialized experience must have been equivalent to at least the next lower grade level in the normal line of progression for the occupation in the organization.

Examples of specialized experience for Advanced Nurse Practitioners: Work experience reflecting knowledge of current nursing principles, practices, procedures, standards of care required to provide advance nursing care skill set. This may include assessing the health status of an individual, managing the care of selected patients, and providing various medical treatments, health teaching, counseling to individual and families through out all age groups for the particular specialty you are applying for.

Selective Factor: The following factor has been determined to be essential to the position. Candidates must demonstrate possession of the factor in order to be considered minimally qualified for the position:

Certification by the appropriate certifying body (such as the American Nursing Association) as a Nurse Practitioner (Provide copy of appropriate certification).

TIME-IN-GRADE REQUIREMENTS: Federal status candidates must have completed at least 52 weeks of service no more than one grade lower than the position to be filled.

LEGAL AND REGULATORY REQUIREMENTS: Candidates must meet time-after competitive appointment, time-in-grade, and qualification requirements within 30 calendar days after the closing date of the vacancy announcement.

Substitution of education for experience is made in accordance with OPM Operating Manual Qualification Standards for General Schedule Positions.

EVALUATION METHOD AND RANKING FACTORS: Evaluation is made on the basis of appropriate education, experience, performance appraisals, training, self-development, outside activities and special awards. Experience related to tribal involvement and to Indian community projects will also be evaluated. Applicants will also be evaluated on the following ranking factors, i.e., Knowledge, Skills, and Abilities (KSA's).

Applicants who meet the basic qualification requirements described in this announcement will be further evaluated to determine whether or not you are highly qualified for this position. You should consider work or related experience, education, training, awards, outside activities, performance appraisals, etc., for each of the **Knowledge, Skills, and Abilities (KSA)**, listed below. **Applicants must address the KSA or will not be considered.** The information provided will be used to determine the "Best Qualified" candidates.

If found qualified, your score will range from 70-100 points (not including points that may be assigned for Veteran's Preference) and will be based on your responses to the questions and information stated in your application. Please follow all instructions carefully as errors and omissions may affect your score. Your score is critical for you being referred for the job. You will be deemed well qualified if you score 85 and above.

SUPPLEMENTAL QUESTIONNAIRE on KNOWLEDGE, SKILLS, AND ABILITIES (KSA): On a separate sheet of paper, discuss how you performed (or have potential to develop) the particular knowledge, skill, or abilities listed below.

1. Knowledge of nursing principles, theories, concepts and techniques.
2. ability to use protocols to assess and treat minor illnesses
3. Ability to counsel and teach.
4. Ability to plan, organize, and manage work on an independent basis
5. Knowledge and ability to apply quality assurance principles, legal aspects, and nursing standards governing nurse practitioners.

WHO MAY APPLY:

Merit Promotion Candidates: Applicants will be accepted from status eligibles (e.g., reinstatement eligible and current permanent employees in the Competitive Federal Service) and from current permanent IHS employees in the Excepted Service and those who are entitled to Indian Preference.

Excepted Service Examining Plan (ESEP) Candidates: Applications will be accepted from individuals entitled to Indian Preference. Current permanent IHS Excepted Service employees and Competitive Service employees or reinstatement eligible entitled to Indian Preference may also apply under the provision of the Indian Health Service ESEP.

➤ Indian Preference candidates **must indicate** whether their application is being submitted under the *IHS Excepted Service Examining Plan* or the *IHS Merit Promotion Plan*, or both if applicable. If not indicated, they will be considered under the MPP>

Veteran's Preference: Veterans who are preferences eligible or who have been separated from the armed forces under honorable conditions after 3 years or more of continuous active service may apply.

Displaced Federal Employees: SPECIAL SELECTION PRIORITY PROVISIONS: FOR SURPLUS OR DISPLACED FEDERAL EMPLOYEES UNDER A CAREER TRANSITION ASSISTANCE PLAN (CTAP).

A. CTAP (For Non - DOD Agencies Only)

If you are currently an employee who has received a Reduction-in-Force (RIF) separation notice, a Certificate of Expected Separation (CES), or notice of proposed separation for declining a direct reassignment or transfer of function outside of the local commuting area, you may be entitled to special selection priority under the Career Transition Assistance Plan (CTAP). To receive this priority consideration you must:

1. Be a current Indian Health Service career or career-conditional (tenure group I or II) competitive service employee who has received a RIF separation notice, a Certificate of Expected Separation (CES), or notice of proposed separation for declining a directed reassignment or transfer of function outside of the local commuting area, and you are still on the rolls of the Indian Health Service. You must submit a copy of the RIF notice, CES, or notice of proposed separation with your application.
2. Be applying for a position that is at or below the grade level of the position from which you are being separated. The position must not have a greater promotion potential than the position from which you are being separated.
3. Have a current (or last) performance rating of record of at least fully successful or equivalent. This must be submitted with your application package.

4. Be currently employed by the Indian Health Service in the same commuting area of the position for which you are requesting selection priority.
5. File your application by the closing date of the vacancy announcement and meet all the application criteria (e.g., submit all required documentation, etc.).
6. Be rated well qualified for the position. Well-qualified employees are eligible displaced Federal employees who meet the qualification and eligibility requirements for the position (including any selective factors) and possess the knowledge, skills, and abilities (KSA) to succeed in the position without undue interruption. Under IHS merit promotion procedures, the employee will be rated and ranked against an established cut-off score to determine the best-qualified applicant.

B. ICTAP (for all Federal Agencies)

SPECIAL SELECTION PRIORITY PROVISIONS FOR DISPLACED FEDERAL EMPLOYEES UNDER THE INTERAGENCY CAREER TRANSITION ASSISTANCE PLAN (ICTAP).

If you are a displaced Federal employee, you may be entitled to receive special selection priority under the Interagency Career Transition Assistance Plan (ICTAP). To receive this priority you must:

1. Be a displaced Federal employee. You must submit with your application a copy of the appropriate documentation, such as a RIF separation notice, a Standard Form 50 reflecting your RIF separation, or a notice of proposed removal for declining a directed reassignment or transfer of function to another commuting area. The following categories of persons are considered displaced employees:

A. Current or former career or career-conditional (tenure group I or II) competitive service employee who:

- 1)Received a specific RIF separation notice; **or**
- 2)Separated because of a compensable injury or illness, whose compensation has been terminated, and whose former agency certifies that it is unable to place; **or**
- 3)Retired with a disability and whose disability annuity has been, or is being, terminated; **or**
- 4)Upon receipt of a RIF separation notice, retired on the effective date of the RIF and submits a Standard Form 50 that indicates "Retirement in lieu of RIF," or retired under the discontinued service retirement option;

OR

B. Former Military Reserve or National Guard Technicians who are receiving a special OPM disability retirement annuity under Section § 8337(H) or § 8456 of Title 5 United States Code.

2. Be applying for a position at or below the grade level of the position from which you have been separated. The position must not have a greater promotion potential than the position from which you were separated.
3. Have a current (or last) performance rating of record of at least fully successful or the equivalent. You must submit a copy of this performance rating with your application package. *(This requirement does not apply to candidates who are eligible due to compensable injury or disability retirement.)*
4. Occupy or be displaced from a position in the same local commuting area of the position for which you are requesting selection priority.
5. File your application by the closing date of the vacancy announcement and meet all of the application criteria (e.g., submit all required documentation, etc.)
6. Be rated "well-qualified" for the position. Well-qualified employees are eligible displaced Federal employees who

meet the qualification and eligibility requirements for the position (including any selective factors) and possess the knowledge, skills, and abilities (KSA) to satisfactorily perform the duties of the position upon entry. Under IHS merit promotion procedures, the employees will be rated and ranked against an established cut-off score to determine the best-qualified applicant.

Reasonable Accommodation for Disabled Applicants: This agency provides reasonable accommodations to applicants with disabilities. If you need a reasonable accommodation for any part of the application and hiring process, please notify contact below. The decision on granting reasonable accommodation will be on a case-by-case basis.

WHERE TO APPLY:

**Indian Health Service
Bemidji Area Human Resources
522 Minnesota Avenue
Bemidji, Mn 56601**

- A copy of this announcement may be obtained by calling (218)-444-0473. Vacancy Announcements may also be downloaded from the **OPM Website - USAJOBS**, www.usajobs.opm.gov or **IHS Website**, www.ihs.gov.
- For additional information, contact the Bemidji Area Human Resources Office at (218)-444-0473.
- The deadline for receipt of complete applications is close of business of the closing date of this announcement.
- Electronic applications **will be** accepted. Please send applications to BEMHR@ihs.gov. **ALL** supporting documents must be submitted by the closing date of the announcement (Persons who submit incomplete applications will be given credit **ONLY** for the information they provide and may not, therefore, receive full credit for their veteran's preference determination, Indian Preference, education, training and/or experience
- Telefaxed copies of applications will **not** be accepted.
- All applications are subject to retention. Requests for copies will not be honored. Additional information will not be solicited by this office.

OTHER IMPORTANT INFORMATION:

- **Verification of Indian Preference:** Applicants who wish to receive Indian Preference **MUST** submit the **BIA Form 4432**, *Verification of Indian Preference for Employment in BIA and IHS Only*. This certifies the applicant an Indian as defined by the Indian Health Manual Chapter 7, Part 3. **Indian Preference will not be given unless BIA Form 4432 is attached to the application/resume.**
- Before hiring, the IHS will ask you to complete a "Declaration of Federal Employment" (OF-306) and Addendum to OF-306 (Child Care and Indian Child Care Worker Positions) to determine your suitability for Federal employment, to authorize a background investigation, and to certify the accuracy of all the information in your application. Under P.L. 101-630 Indian Child Protection Act, anyone who answers in the affirmative will be found ineligible and unsuitable for employment in the Indian Health Service. If you make a false statement in any part of your application, you may not be hired; you may be fired after you begin work; or you may be fined or jailed.
- If you are a male over the age of 18, and born after December 31, 1959, you must have registered with the Selective Service System (or have an exemption) to be eligible for a Federal job.
- The law prohibits public officials from appointing, promoting, or recommending their relatives.
- Federal annuitants (military and civilian) may have their salaries reduced. All employees must pay any valid delinquent debt or the agency may garnish their salary.

THE FOLLOWING STATEMENT MUST ACCOMPANY ALL APPLICATIONS:

"I authorize any and all persons involved directly and/or indirectly in the selection process to review my application".

Signature of Applicant

THE IHS is a SMOKE-FREE ENVIRONMENT and an EQUAL OPPORTUNITY EMPLOYEE

HOW TO APPLY

Choose one of the following forms to apply for this job.
Please submit one application or resume for each different job.

Optional Application for Federal Employment
(Form number OF-612)

Resume or Other written application format with information requested below.

***If your resume or application does not provide all the information we request, you may lose consideration for a job. Persons who submit incomplete applications will be given credit **ONLY** for the information they provide and may not, therefore, receive full credit for their veteran preference determination, Indian preference, education, training and/or experience.

Your resume or other application format **MUST** contain the following information:

JOB INFORMATION

Announcement number, title, and grade(s) of the job for which you are applying

PERSONAL INFORMATION

Full name, mailing address (with zip codes), day and evening phone numbers (include area codes),
Social Security Number
Country of citizenship

EDUCATION

High School (name, city, and state) and date of diploma or GED
College and/or universities (name, city, and state, major, type and year of degrees received)
Copies of college transcripts, if applicable. **Education will NOT be given credit without them.**

WORK EXPERIENCE

Give the following for your paid and non-paid work experience related to the job for which you are applying:

Job title (**if Federal, please indicate series and grade & submit SF-50**)
Duties and accomplishments
Employer's name and address
Supervisor's name and phone number
Starting and ending dates (**month and year**)
Hours per week
Salary
Indicate if we may contact your current supervisor

OTHER QUALIFICATIONS

Give dates but do not send documents unless requested:

Job related training courses (title and year)
Job related skills, for example, other languages, computer software/hardware, tools, machinery, typing speed
Job related certificates and licenses (if you are a licensed medical professional, submit copy of license to practice)
Honors, awards, and special accomplishments, for example, publications, memberships, in professional or honor societies, leadership activities, public speaking, and performance awards.

KSA Ranking Factors (see vacancy announcement)

Submit the following documents along with your chosen application format if you are in one of the following categories:

COMMISSIONED OFFICER	INDIAN PREFERENCE	VETERAN PREFERENCE	FEDERAL EMPLOYEEE
<p>A. Current Billet description.</p> <p>B. Most recent "Commissioned Officers Effectiveness Report".</p> <p>C. All other documents specified in this announcement including KSAs, transcripts, registration, etc."</p>	<p><i>Verification of Indian Preference for Employment, Bureau of Indian Affairs (BIA) Form-4432.</i></p> <p><i>Preference will not be given unless a copy of the 4432 is attached to the application.</i></p>	<p><i>Certificates of Release or discharge from Active Duty, VA form DD-214, and/or Application for 10-point Veteran Preference, Form SF-15.</i></p> <p><i>To receive preference if your service began October 15, 1976, you must have a Campaign Badge, Expeditionary Medal, or a service connected disability. Preference will not be given unless a copy of the DD-214 (with appropriate dates) is attached to the application.</i></p>	<p>(Current, former, or displaced)</p> <p>A. Notification of Personnel Action, SF-50.</p> <p>B. Most recent numerical performance rating.</p> <p><i>Priority consideration will not be given to DISPLACED FEDERAL EMPLOYEEES, unless a copy of the appropriate documentation such as a RIF separation letter, a letter from OPM or your agency documentation showing your priority consideration status is attached to the application.</i></p>

Applicant Background Survey

GENERAL INSTRUCTIONS

This survey is used to collect and analyze data involving race, sex, age, disability, and national origin from applicants for employment. The information you provide will be used for statistical purposes only and will not in any way affect you individually. While completion of this form is voluntary, your cooperation is important to help ensure accurate information regarding employment practices. We ask you to answer each of the questions to the best of your ability. Print your answer clearly. Read each item thoroughly before selecting the appropriate response.

A. Announcement number(s) and/or position(s) for which you are applying:

B. Year of Birth:

C. For Agency Use:

D. How did you learn about the position or exam for which you are applying? For example: radio, job fair, friend, newspaper, school counselor, etc.

E. Ethnicity

- HISPANIC or LATINO - a person of Cuban, Mexican, Puerto Rican, South or Central American, or other Spanish culture or origin, regardless of race.
- NOT HISPANIC or LATINO

F. Race (select one or more)

- AMERICAN INDIAN or ALASKA NATIVE - a person having origins in any of the original peoples of North or South America (including Central America), and who maintains tribal affiliation or community attachment.
- ASIAN - a person having origins in any of the original peoples of the Far East, Southeast Asia, or the Indian subcontinent including, for example, Cambodia, China, India, Japan, Korea, Malaysia, Pakistan, the Philippine Islands, Thailand, or Vietnam.
- BLACK or AFRICAN AMERICAN - a person having origins in any of the black racial groups of Africa.
- NATIVE HAWAIIAN or OTHER PACIFIC ISLANDER - a person having origins in any of the original peoples of Hawaii, Guam, Samoa, or other Pacific islands.
- WHITE - a person having origins in any of the original peoples of Europe, the Middle East, or North America.

G. Sex

- Male
- Female

H. Disability

A person is disabled if he or she has a physical or mental impairment that substantially limits one or more major life activities, has a record of such impairment, or is regarded as having such impairment.

- | | |
|---|---|
| <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <input type="checkbox"/> I do not have a disability <input type="checkbox"/> Deaf <input type="checkbox"/> Blind <input type="checkbox"/> Missing extremities <input type="checkbox"/> Partial paralysis <input type="checkbox"/> Complete paralysis <input type="checkbox"/> I have a disability, but it is not listed (<i>specify</i>): | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <input type="checkbox"/> Convulsive disorder <input type="checkbox"/> Mental retardation <input type="checkbox"/> Mental or emotional illness <input type="checkbox"/> Severe distortion of limbs and/or spine |
|---|---|

PRIVACY ACT AND PAPERWORK REDUCTION STATEMENT

Privacy Act Information: This information is provided pursuant to Public Law 93-579 ("Privacy Act of 1974") for individuals completing Federal records and forms that solicit personal information. The authority is Title V of the U.S. Code, sections 1301, 3301, 3304, and 7201. **■ Purpose and Routine Uses:** This form is maintained in Privacy Act system records 09-90-0006, Applicants for Employment Records, HHS/OS/ASMB. The information in this survey is used solely for research and for statistical purposes to help ensure that agency personnel practices meet the requirements of Federal law. No other uses will be made of this information. This form will be separated from other application materials upon receipt. **■ Effects of Non-Disclosure:** Providing this information is voluntary; no individual personnel selections are made based on this information. **■ Paperwork Reduction Act Statement:** A Federal agency may not conduct or sponsor, and a person is not required to respond to, a collection of information unless it displays a current valid OMB control number. Public reporting burden for this collection of information is estimated to vary from one to three minutes with an average of two minutes per response, including time for reviewing instructions, and completing and reviewing the collection of information.