

DEPARTMENT OF HEALTH AND HUMAN SERVICES

NAVAJO AREA
INDIAN HEALTH SERVICE

THIS POSITION IS LOCATED IN A TOBACCO-FREE
ENVIRONMENT

Applications mailed using government postage or through an internal government mail system will not be considered.

VACANCY ANNOUNCEMENT

GA-08-078

OPENING DATE

09-15-2008

CLOSING DATE

10-03-2008

POSITION

Traditional Healer/Counselor

LOCATION AND DUTY STATION

Division of Public Health

Office of Native Medicine

Gallup Indian Medical Center

Gallup, New Mexico

GRADE/SALARY

GS-101-09, \$45,040.00 per annum*

NUMBER OF VACANCIES

One (1) (20 94 02)

APPOINTMENT

(X) Permanent

WORK SCHEDULE

(X) Full Time

AREA OF CONSIDERATION

(X) IHS Wide

SUPERVISORY/MANAGERIAL

(X) No

PROMOTION POTENTIAL

(X) No known potential

HOUSING

(X) Private Housing only

TRAVEL/MOVING

(X) May be paid for eligible employees

DUTIES: The incumbent will provide traditional counseling, healing and cultural education services to the Gallup Service Unit patients/clients and staff under the direction of the Program Coordinator. Plan, manage and carry out service unit traditional counseling/healing services in accordance with departmental goals in order to meet defined objectives. Provide traditional counseling/healing services to patients and their families in clinical and community settings, including the beside, native healing room, traditional Hogan, sweat lodge, and community sites, as appropriate. Provide traditional counseling on disease process, health maintenance, the promotion of healthy lifestyles and the prevention of illness while listening and supporting the patients' current concerns. Provide native diagnostic procedures and the ritual treatment procedures, including simple ceremonies, blessings and sweats. Refer patients to other native practitioners for complex traditional therapies when needed. Schedules and provides appropriate follow-up care of patients. Provide training on native medicine and culture for service unit staff and assists ONM with staff development activities. Provide group education services to patients and community groups on the traditional beliefs related to diabetes and other health issues, including disease process, prevention and treatment. Provide consultation services to service unit staff as needed on native healing practices and traditional beliefs. Perform ceremonies or blessings for service unit departments, including before and after mock codes, new facility dedications, annual clinical unit blessings and other activities as needed. Participate on the

Traditional Medicine Health Services Committee and other service unit committees as assigned. Participate in departmental performance improvement activities. Performs other related duties as assigned.

QUALIFICATION REQUIREMENTS: YOUR DESCRIPTION OF WORK EXPERIENCE, LEVEL OF RESPONSIBILITY, AND ACCOMPLISHMENTS WILL BE USED TO DETERMINE THAT YOU MEET THE FOLLOWING REQUIREMENTS.

BASIC REQUIREMENTS: Candidates must meet the basic requirements of paragraph A or B or C below:

- A. **DEGREE:** Behavioral or Social Science; or related disciplines appropriate to the position. **OR**
- B. Combination of education and experience—that provided the applicant with knowledge of one or more of the behavioral or social sciences equivalent to a major in the field. **OR**
- C. Four years of appropriate experience that demonstrated that the applicant has acquired knowledge of one or more of the behavioral or social sciences equivalent to a major in the field.

ADDITIONAL EXPERIENCE AND EDUCATION REQUIREMENTS: For GS-09: 2 years of progressively higher level graduate education leading to a master's degree or master's or equivalent graduate degree

SPECIALIZED EXPERIENCE: Candidates must have 52 weeks of specialized experience equivalent to at least GS-07. 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. This experience must have demonstrated a solid theoretical foundation for providing traditional healing and counseling in any setting to patients who required diagnostic or treatment of their illness to be related to cultural beliefs and perspectives; collaborating with western health care providers and other native healers; plans and manages the traditional healing and counseling services to individual traditional patient care; and knowledge of adult education principles, techniques and methods for patient and staff education

POSITIVE EDUCATION REQUIREMENT: YES LICENSURE REQUIRED: NO

SELECTIVE PLACEMENT FACTOR: None

CONDITION OF EMPLOYMENT: IMMUNIZATION REQUIREMENT: - All persons born after 12-31-56 must provide proof of immunity to Rubella and Measles. Serology testing to confirm immunity and/or immunizations will be provided free of charge. Special consideration may be allowed to individuals who are allergic to a component of a vaccine, have a history of severe reaction to a vaccine, or who are currently pregnant. This applies to candidates for positions in any Service Unit or any Area Office position which requires regular work at a Service Unit.

TIME-IN-GRADE REQUIREMENTS: If selected under the Excepted Service Examining Plan, applicant may be appointed under Schedule A authority without regard to Time-In-Grade Requirements. Candidates applying under the provisions of the Merit Promotion Plan for GS-09 must have completed 52 weeks of service at the GS-07 level by the closing date of this

announcement.

LEGAL AND REGULATORY REQUIREMENTS: Proof of U.S. citizenship is required for appointment to the IHS. Candidates must meet time-after-competitive appointment, time-in-grade, and qualification requirements by the closing date of the vacancy announcement.

NOTE: Refer to OPM Operating Manual Qualification Standard for General Schedule Positions, Series 101 for complete information. Substitution of education for experience will be made in accordance with those standards. **TO OBTAIN EDUCATIONAL CREDIT, APPLICANTS MUST SUBMIT OFFICIAL COLLEGE TRANSCRIPTS.** For more complete information, contact your servicing Human Resources Office.

WHO MAY APPLY: Merit Promotion Plan (MPP) Candidates: Applications will be accepted from status eligible (e.g., reinstatement eligible and current permanent employees in the Competitive Federal Service) and from current permanent IHS employees in the Excepted Federal Service 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 provisions of the Indian Health Service Excepted Service Examining Plan. These candidates **MUST** indicate on their Resume, SF-171, OF-612, Application for Federal Employment, in item #1 whether their application is submitted under the IHS Excepted Service Examining Plan, the IHS Area Merit Promotion Plan or both.

Applications will also be accepted from individuals eligible for non-competitive appointment (e.g., Applicants eligible for appointment under the Veterans Readjustment Act, the severely handicapped, or those with a 30% or more compensable service-connected disability.)

INFORMATION FOR DEPARTMENT OF HEALTH AND HUMAN SERVICES (DHHS) SURPLUS OR DISPLACED EMPLOYEES REQUESTING SPECIAL SELECTION PRIORITY CONSIDERATION:

If you are currently a DHHS employee who has received a Reduction in Force (RIF) separation notice or a Certificate of Expected Separation, you may be entitled to special priority selection under DHHS Career Transition Assistance Program (CTAP). To receive this priority consideration you must:

Be a current DHHS Career or Career Conditional (tenure group I or II) competitive service employee who has received a RIF separation notice or a Certificate of Expected Separation (CES) and, the date of the RIF separation has not passed and you are still on the rolls of DHHS. You **MUST** submit a copy of the RIF separation notice or CES along with your application.

1. Be a current DHHS career or career-conditional (tenure group I or II) competitive service employee who has received a RIF separation notice or a Certificate of Expected Separation (CES) and, the date of the RIF separation has not passed and you are still on the rolls of DHHS. You **must** submit a copy of the RIF separation notice or CES along 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 promotional 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 DHHS in the same commuting area of the position for which you are requesting priority consideration.
 5. File your application by the vacancy announcement closing date and meet all the application criteria (e.g., submit all required documentation, etc.)
 6. Meet the basic qualifications for the position any documented selective factor, physical requirements with any reasonable accommodation and is able to satisfactorily perform the duties of the position without undue interruption.

INFORMATION FOR DISPLACED EMPLOYEES REQUESTING SPECIAL SELECTION
PRIORITY CONSIDERATION UNDER THE INTERAGENCY CAREER TRANSITION
ASSISTANCE PROGRAM (CITAP).

If you are a displaced Federal employee you maybe entitled to receive special priority selection under the ICTAP. To receive this priority consideration, you must:

1. Be a displaced Federal employee. You must submit a copy of the appropriate documentation such as RIF separation notice, a letter from OPM or your agency documenting your priority consideration status with your application package following categories of candidates are considered displaced employees.
 - A. Current or former career or career-conditional (tenure group I or II) competitive service employees who:
 1. Received a specific RIF separation notice; or
 2. Separated because of a compensable injury, whose compensation has been terminated, and whose former agency certifies that 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
 5. Retired under the discontinued service retirement option; or
 6. Was separated because he/she declined a transfer of function or directed reassignment to another commuting area.

OR

- B. Former Military Reserve or National Guard Technicians who are receiving a special Office of Personnel Management (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 current (or last) performance rating of record of at least fully successful or equivalent. This must be submitted 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 same local commuting area of the position for which you are requesting priority consideration.
5. File your application by the vacancy announcement closing date and meet all the application criteria (e.g. submit all required documentation, etc.).
6. Be rated well qualified **by achieving a score of 80 on a rating scale of 70 to 100** for the

position including documented selective factors, quality ranking factors, physical requirements with reasonable accommodations and is able to satisfactorily perform the duties of the position upon entry.

EVALUATION CRITERIA: Evaluation will be made of Experience, Performance Appraisals, Training, Letters of Commendation, Self-Development, Awards and Outside Activities which are related to this position. To receive full credit for your qualifications, provide a narrative statement which fully describes all aspects of your background as they relate to the knowledge, skills, and abilities (KSA's) outlined below and show the level of accomplishments and degree of responsibility.

The KSA's in your narrative statement will be the principle basis for determining whether or not you are highly qualified for the position. Describe your qualifications in each of the following:

1. Knowledge of Traditional Navajo and other Native American Healing Beliefs and Practices.
2. Skills in providing native diagnostic procedures and ritual treatment procedures.
3. Ability to determine the appropriate patient care plan.
4. Skill in providing traditional counseling healing and cultural education services.

SEE ATTACHED SUPPLEMENTAL QUESTIONNAIRE FOR DEFINITIONS.

HOW & WHERE TO APPLY: All applicants, must submit one of the following to the Gallup Indian Medical Center, Human Resources Office, P.O. Box 1337, Gallup, NM, 87305 by (4:30 p.m) on the closing date: 10-03-2008 . **FOR MORE INFORMATION CONTACT:** Julia Nelson at 505-722-1412. **Electronic or telefaxed Resumes or Applications will not be accepted.**

1. OF-612, Optional Application for Federal Employment; **or** SF-171, Application for Federal Employment; **or** *Resume; or any other written application format*. **See INFORMATION REQUIRED ON RESUMES AND OTHER APPLICATION FORMATS outlined below.**
2. OF-306, Declaration for Federal Employment must be completed and submitted with original signature to determine your suitability for Federal employment, to authorize a background investigation, and to certify the accuracy of all the information in your application. Responding yes to any one of these questions can make you ineligible for employment in this position. **If you make a false statement in any part of your application, you may be hired; you may be fired after you begin work; or you may be fined or jailed.** IHS Child Care Addendum, this position is covered under the Child Care and Indian Child Worker Laws, P.L. 101-657 and P.L. 101-630, all applicants must sign the required "Addendum to Declaration for Federal Employment".
3. A copy of BIA Form 4432, Verification of Indian Preference for Employment, must be submitted if the applicant claims Indian Preference. Navajo Area Indian Health Service employees claiming Indian Preference need not submit the BIA Form 4432, but must state such documentation is contained in their Official Personnel Folder.
4. DD-214, Veterans' Preference Certification, if claiming Veterans' preference. In addition, if claiming 10-point preference, submit SF-15 to show proof of 10-pt

preference. Veterans' Preference is not applicable to current HHS permanent employees, federal employees with competitive status, or Reinstatement eligible.

5. Copy of latest SF-50, Notification of Personnel Action, if current or a prior federal employee.
6. Latest Performance Appraisal, if a current federal employee.
7. An Official College Transcript, to show proof of undergraduate or graduate education.
8. Supplemental Questionnaire (KSA) – failure to submit this narrative may adversely affect your ranking for this position.

***INFORMATION REQUIRED FOR RESUMES AND OTHER APPLICATION FORMATS:** Resumes or other application formats must contain all of the information listed below in sufficient detail to enable the personnel office to make a determination that you have the required qualifications for the position. *SPECIFICALLY, THE INFORMATION PROVIDED UNDER #8 (HIGH SCHOOL), #9 (COLLEGES AND UNIVERSITIES) AND #10 (WORK EXPERIENCE) WILL BE USED TO EVALUATE YOUR QUALIFICATIONS FOR THIS POSITION. FAILURE TO INCLUDE ANY OF THE INFORMATION; LISTED BELOW MAY RESULT IN LOSS OF CONSIDERATION FOR THIS POSITION.*

1. Announcement Number, Title and Grade of the job for which you are applying;
2. Full Name, Mailing Address (with zip code) and Day and Evening Phone Numbers (with area codes);
3. Social Security Number;
4. Country of Citizenship;
5. Highest Federal civilian grade held (give series and dates held);
6. High School - Name, City, State (zip code if known), and date of Diploma or GED.
7. Colleges and Universities - Name, City, State (zip code if known), Major(s), Type and Year of degree received (If no degree show Total Semester or Quarter Hours earned).
8. Work Experience (paid and non-paid) - Job, Title, Employer's Name and Address, Supervisor's Name and Telephone Number, Description of Duties and Accomplishments, Starting and Ending dates (month/year), Average hours worked per week, and Salary.
9. Indicate if we may contact your current Supervisor;
10. Description of job-related training courses, license or certification (current only), honor, awards, special accomplishments.

NOTE: THIS OFFICE WILL NOT SOLICIT FOR ADDITIONAL INFORMATION. Applicants who submit incomplete applications will be given credit only for the information he/she provided. Therefore, it is the responsibility of the applicant to submit a complete application packet by the closing date.

REASONABLE ACCOMMODATION: 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 the agency. The decision on granting reasonable accommodation will be on a case-by-case basis.

VETERANS: Veterans who are preference eligible or who have been separated from the Armed Forces under honorable conditions after 3 years or more of continuous active service may

apply.

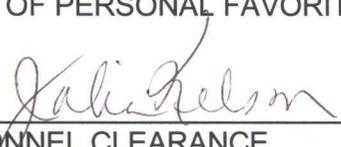
ADDITIONAL SELECTIONS: Additional or alternative selections may be made within 90 days of the date of the certificate issued if the position becomes vacant or to fill an identical additional position in the same geographic location.

COMMISSIONED OFFICERS: Commissioned Officers may indicate an interest in being considered with the Commissioned Corps by submitting a resume to the GIMC- Human Resources Office. Commissioned Corps applicants claiming Indian Preference will be evaluated ice against the applicable Preston standard or the civil service standard, if no Preston standard exists. These applicants must describe the experience gained in their two most recent positions and dates they occupied those positions. In addition, Commissioned Corps Indian Preference applicants must also provide information regarding education, including degrees obtained and schools attended and they must include home/work telephone numbers if this information is not contained in the resumes. When required by the vacancy announcements, these applicants must provide specific information related to any knowledge, skills, and abilities which are being used as selective factors. Commissioned Corps Indian Preference applicants may also be required to submit proof of Indian Preference and proof of possession of the appropriate license.

INDIAN PREFERENCE: Preference in filling vacancies is given to qualified Indian candidates in accordance with the Indian Preference Act. In other than the above, the Indian Health Service is an Equal Opportunity Employer.

SELECTIVE SERVICE CERTIFICATION: If you are a male born after December 31, 1959 and you want to be employed by the Federal Government, you must (subject to certain exemptions) be registered with the Selective Service Systems.

EQUAL EMPLOYMENT OPPORTUNITY: SELECTION FOR POSITIONS WILL BE BASED SOLELY ON MERIT WITH NO DISCRIMINATION FOR NON-MERIT REASONS SUCH AS RACE, COLOR, RELIGION, GENDER, SEXUAL ORIENTATION, NATIONAL ORIGIN, POLITICS, MARITAL STATUS, PHYSICAL HANDICAP, AGE OR MEMBERSHIP OR NON-MEMBERSHIP IN AN EMPLOYEE ORGANIZATION. PROMOTIONS OR APPOINTMENTS WILL NOT BE BASED ON PERSONAL RELATIONSHIP OR OTHER TYPES OF PERSONAL FAVORITISM OR PATRONAGE.


PERSONNEL CLEARANCE

09/11/2008
DATE

APPLICATION AND DOCUMENT FORM MUST BE INDIVIDUALLY IDENTIFIED BY EACH THIS ANNOUNCEMENT NUMBER - GA-08-078. ALL ORIGINAL DOCUMENTS AND COMPLETED APPLICATION FORMS ARE TO BE DUPLICATED BY THE APPLICANT BEFORE SUBMISSION AS WE DO NOT HONOR REQUESTS FOR COPIES. COMPLETED FORMS WHEN SUBMITTED BECOME THE PROPERTY OF THIS PERSONNEL OFFICE AND WILL NOT BE RETURNED. ORIGINAL SIGNATURES ARE REQUIRED ON SF-171 AND SUPPLEMENTAL STATEMENTS. ONLY MATERIAL SUBMITTED BY THE CLOSING DATE WILL BE CONSIDERED.

**SUPPLEMENTAL QUESTIONNAIRE
TRADITIONAL HEALER/COUNSELOR, GS-101-09**

1. KNOWLEDGE OF TRADITIONAL NAVAJO AND OTHER NATIVE AMERICAN HEALING BELIEFS AND PRACTICES. The person in this position must have the knowledge of traditional Navajo and other Native American healing beliefs and practices as well as native traditional behavioral development, beliefs and cultural practices to plan, develop, and implement a traditional native healing and cultural education program for patients and staff. This includes consulting, collaborating and establishing partnership with other leaders of traditional medicine and native healing practitioners. What in your background shows you possess this knowledge?

What was the duration of these activities?

Who can verify this information? (Please provide a telephone number.)

2. SKILLS IN PROVIDING NATIVE DIAGNOSTIC PROCEDURES AND RITUAL TREATMENT PROCEDURES. The person must have the skills in providing native diagnostic procedures and ritual treatment procedures. Including simple native ceremonies, blessings or sweat, and provides traditional counseling or refers to an outside native healer for more extensive treatment. This also includes documentation of all patient care and services provided in the medical record in accordance with departmental policy. What in your background shows you possess this skill?

What was the duration of these activities?

Who can verify this information? (Please provide a telephone number.)

3. ABILITY TO DETERMINE THE APPROPRIATE PATIENT CARE PLAN. The person in this position must have the ability to determine the appropriate patient care plan, i.e., whether to perform ceremony to provide traditional counseling or to refer to an outside native healer for more extensive treatment. This also includes documentation in a medical record or other required documentation in accordance with agency policy. What in your background shows you possess this ability?

What was the duration of these activities?

Who can verify this information? (Please provide a telephone number.)

4. SKILL IN PROVIDING TRADITIONAL COUNSELING, HEALING AND CULTURAL EDUCATION SERVICES. The person in this position must have the skill in providing traditional counseling, healing and cultural education services both in Native and English language including speaking and writing abilities. This also includes good communication skills. What in your background shows you possess this skill?

What was the duration of these activities?

Who can verify this information? (Please provide a telephone number.)

C-E-R-T-I-F-I-C-A-T-I-O-N

I CERTIFY that all of the statements made in the above questionnaire are true, complete, and correct to the best of my knowledge and belief; and are made in good faith.

Signature of Applicant (Sign in Ink)

Date