



Choose your Lifestyle

Physician Assistants who choose a community oriented practice focused on the health care problems of American Indians and Alaska Natives provide a tremendous service. In doing so, over 100 IHS PAs not only serve an appreciative community with rich traditions to share, they also participate in an integrated and collegial health care system with other highly qualified professionals. This multi-disciplinary team environment at work combined with opportunities for an adventurous outdoor lifestyle and the opportunity to serve in-need and appreciative patients, is the hallmark of a Physician Assistants career with IHS Public Health Professions.

Choose to Serve

While IHS medical practice is focused most directly on primary care and family practice for the communities we serve, our care is comprehensive. As a result, there is ample opportunity- and pressing need- for physician assistants in wide range of specializations, including but not limited to the following areas:



- Anesthesiology
- Emergency Medical Treatment
- Epidemiology
- Family Medicine
- Internal Medicine
- Obstetrics/Gynecology
- Ophthalmology
- Pediatrics
- Podiatry
- Psychiatry
- Radiology
- Surgery

In addition, some physician assistants serve in leadership positions, such as Chief Clinical Consultant and advocate for system-wide improvements and innovations. Others take responsibility for oversight of practice-based research into delivery of care to American Indians and Alaska Native people, with major focus on improving the overall status of community health and health care systems. There are also specialized programs for women’s health, and child health, diabetes, elder care, and behavioral health programs that combine services for mental/social services with alcoholism and substance abuse services.



Choose Your Career Path and Benefits- 3 options

Physician Assistants who enter IHS as **Federal Civil Service employees** can expect a comprehensive package of compensation and benefits that includes:

- Competitive starting salary and benefits
- 13 days paid vacation to start
- 10 paid Federal holidays
- Annual continuing education (available at all sites with varied cost reimbursement)
- 13 days sick leave initially
- Comprehensive retirement program
- Comprehensive health care
- No-cost malpractice coverage
- No overhead expenses
- IHS Loan Repayment Program (based on eligibility requirements and funding)
- Eligibility for transfer after 2 years
- Thrift savings (contributory) retirement plan with government match



Physician Assistants who enter IHS through the **US Public Health Service** Commissioned Corps may receive:

- 30 days paid vacation
- Sick leave as needed
- IHS Loan Repayment Program (based on eligibility requirements and funding)
- Tax-free housing allowance
- Space-available flights on military aircraft and military benefits
- Non-contributory retirement and health care
- Up to 5 years of retirement credit transferable to employment with Commissioned Corps

Direct hire by any of some 560 Federally recognized American Indian or Alaska Native Tribes is another possible entry point for a career in medicine with IHS. Openings may be available in both urban and rural Tribal areas, and employment compensation and benefits are negotiated directly with the Tribal employer.

Choose IHS

Whichever career path you select, exciting and rewarding careers are available in many locations throughout the areas we serve. Whether you are a graduating student seeking a meaningful start to your career, or an experienced mid-career PA looking for a change of pace, you can find it as an IHS Public Health Professional. You will be entering an outward directed practice, focused on an appreciative community that recognizes the vital needs you are filling in their lives. Most of all, you will be working with dedicated, like-minded colleagues who have also chosen a path of direct community service that brings with it opportunity, adventure, and purpose.

For more information about career opportunities with:



visit: www.careers.ihs.gov (search under “other” for Indian Health Service)
or <http://www.usphs.gov/> (for Public Health Service)