



# Indian Health Careers in the Bemidji Area

*Opportunity. Adventure. Purpose.*

IHS health professionals who live and work in the Bemidji Area enjoy an abundance of lakes and parks, sports and recreation and extensive opportunities for professional fulfillment and cultural enrichment.









# Tribes of Minnesota, Michigan, Wisconsin, Illinois and Indiana

Bad River Band of Chippewa • Bay Mills Indian Community • Bois Forte Band (Nett Lake) • Fond du Lac Band • Forest County Potawatomi Community • Grand Portage Band • Grand Traverse Band of Ottawa/Chippewa Indians • Hannahville Indian Community • Ho-Chunk Nation • Keweenaw Bay Indian Community • Lac Courte Oreilles Band of Chippewa Indians • Lac du Flambeau Band of Chippewa Indians • Lac Vieux Desert Band of Chippewa Indians • Leech Lake Band • Little River Band of Ottawa Indians • Little Traverse Bay Band of Odawa Indians • Lower Sioux Indian Community in the State of Minnesota • Match-e-be-nash-she-wish Band of Potawatomi Indians • Menominee Indian Tribe • Mille Lacs Band • Nottawaseppi Huron Band of Potawatomi • Oneida Tribe Nation • Pokagon Band of Potawatomi Indians • Prairie Island Indian Community in the State of Minnesota • Red Cliff Band of Chippewa Indians • Red Lake Band of Chippewa Indians, Minnesota • Sault Ste. Marie Tribe of Chippewa Indians • Saginaw Chippewa Indians • Shakopee Mdewakanton Sioux Community (SMSC) of Minnesota • Sokaogon Chippewa Community • St. Croix Chippewa Indians • Stockbridge Munsee Community • Upper Sioux Community, Minnesota • White Earth Band

Wisconsin Menominee shawl dancer demonstrates the butterfly dance.  
Cover photo: Shoreline of Lake Superior. Cover inset photo: IHS nurse with mother and daughter.





## Providing Care in Minnesota, Michigan, Wisconsin, Illinois and Indiana

Health professionals living and working in the Bemidji Area will find themselves surrounded by thousands of lakes, natural forests, state parks, nature preserves and abundant wildlife. Combined, these spectacular features offer loads of opportunities for recreational pursuits within the five-state Area. No wonder Bemidji is considered a Sportsman's Paradise.

With a patient population of more than 110,500, the Bemidji Area provides clinical service and support to 34 federally recognized Tribes and four Urban Indian Programs in Minnesota, Michigan, Wisconsin, Illinois and Indiana. The Bemidji Area Office operates three direct service programs at Cass Lake Hospital (Cass Lake, MN), Red Lake Hospital (Red Lake, MN) and White Earth Health Center (Ogemaw, MN).

The Bemidji Area values commitment to patients and employees, customer service and Tribal consultation. The growth of community-based services results from Tribes becoming more involved with the management of their health care, which is particularly important in the Bemidji Area as many Tribal members are geographically isolated from towns and community centers where health care is available.

*As a resident of this spectacular five-state Area, you'll marvel at the miles of sparkling lakes, tall pines and Midwest hospitality. You'll also find a world of opportunities for professional enrichment and recreational pursuits.*



*IHS offers a wide range of health profession opportunities in the Bemidji Area. Enjoy a unique work/life balance that provides rich rewards and ample time for family and recreational activities.*

## A World of Opportunities

Can you see yourself living and serving in the Bemidji Area? Positions are available in many clinical, professional and administrative specialties. New hires can expect competitive salaries, a full range of benefits and, in some cases, signing bonuses. Many positions also offer relocation incentives.

### Health Profession Openings by Discipline

- Behavioral Health Providers
- Dentists
- Dental Assistants
- Dental Hygienists
- Dietitians
- Laboratory Technicians
- Nurses
- Nurse Practitioners
- Optical Technicians
- Optometrists
- Physicians
- Physician Assistants
- Pharmacists
- Pharmacy Technicians
- Physical Therapists
- Radiology Technicians



## IHS Career Options

IHS offers clinicians a choice of three options to practice their specific health profession discipline: working as a federal civil service employee, as an Officer in the Commissioned Corps of the US Public Health Service (USPHS) or directly for a Tribal or Urban Indian Program. Each of these options offers career flexibility, competitive salaries and benefits and ample opportunity for advancement.

### Federal Civil Service

Professionals who choose to work in the federal civil service earn competitive salaries and are eligible for comprehensive federal and retirement benefits. They also enjoy significant career flexibility, eligibility for advancement and can transfer throughout IHS facilities while still maintaining their benefits.

### US Public Health Service (USPHS) Commissioned Corps

One of the seven uniformed services of the United States, the Commissioned Corps offers an opportunity to serve our nation as a health professional in certain disciplines. The Commissioned Corps is comprised of highly qualified public health professionals protecting, promoting and advancing the health and safety of the nation. Commissioned Corps officers are eligible for military retirement benefits. Approximately 2,000 Commissioned Corps officers currently serve within IHS.

### Tribal or Urban Indian Programs

Individuals interested in working within a Tribal or Urban Indian Program negotiate compensation and benefits directly with the program or Tribe with whom they seek to work. Openings are available in both urban and rural areas

*Our Mission: to raise the physical, mental, social and spiritual health of American Indians and Alaska Natives to the highest level.*



## Did you know that you can pay off your health profession loans through our Loan Repayment Programs?

The IHS Loan Repayment Program offers health professionals practicing at IHS facilities an opportunity to pay off all of their eligible health education student loans in addition to receiving competitive salaries and benefits. Participants are eligible to receive up to \$20,000 per year and can extend their contract annually until all of their loans are paid off. Pursue the opportunity to build your career with IHS and work as part of an interdisciplinary team of health professionals, while gaining the financial freedom to live and work within some of the most picturesque settings in the country.

Additionally, the National Health Service Corps (NHSC) Loan Repayment Program (LRP) offers primary care providers up to \$50,000 for a two-year service commitment to work at an approved NHSC site in a high-need, underserved area. Like IHS, NHSC LRP recipients can obtain additional loan repayment by extending their service.

◀ You can join the IHS team as a civil service employee, an officer of the USPHS Commissioned Corps or as a direct hire for a Tribal or Urban Indian Program. Above: Young health professionals are attracted to the financial freedom of the IHS LRP.



# Bemidji Area

## Facility Locations, Major Cities and Attractions



- 1 Cass Lake Hospital
- 2 Red Lake Hospital
- 3 White Earth Health Center
- 4 American Indian Health Service
- 5 American Indian Health and Family Services of the Southeast
- 6 Minneapolis Indian Health Board Inc.
- 7 Gerald L. Ignace Indian Health Center
- 8 Bay Mills Indian Community
- 9 Grand Traverse Band
- 10 Hannahville Indian Community
- 11 Keweenaw Bay Indian Community
- 12 Lac Vieux Desert Band
- 13 Little River Band

Cass Lake, MN  
 Red Lake, MN  
 Ogema, MN  
 Chicago

Detroit  
 Minneapolis  
 Milwaukee  
 Brimley, MI  
 Peshawbestown, MI  
 Wilson, MI  
 Baraga, MI  
 Watersmeet, MI  
 Manistee, MI

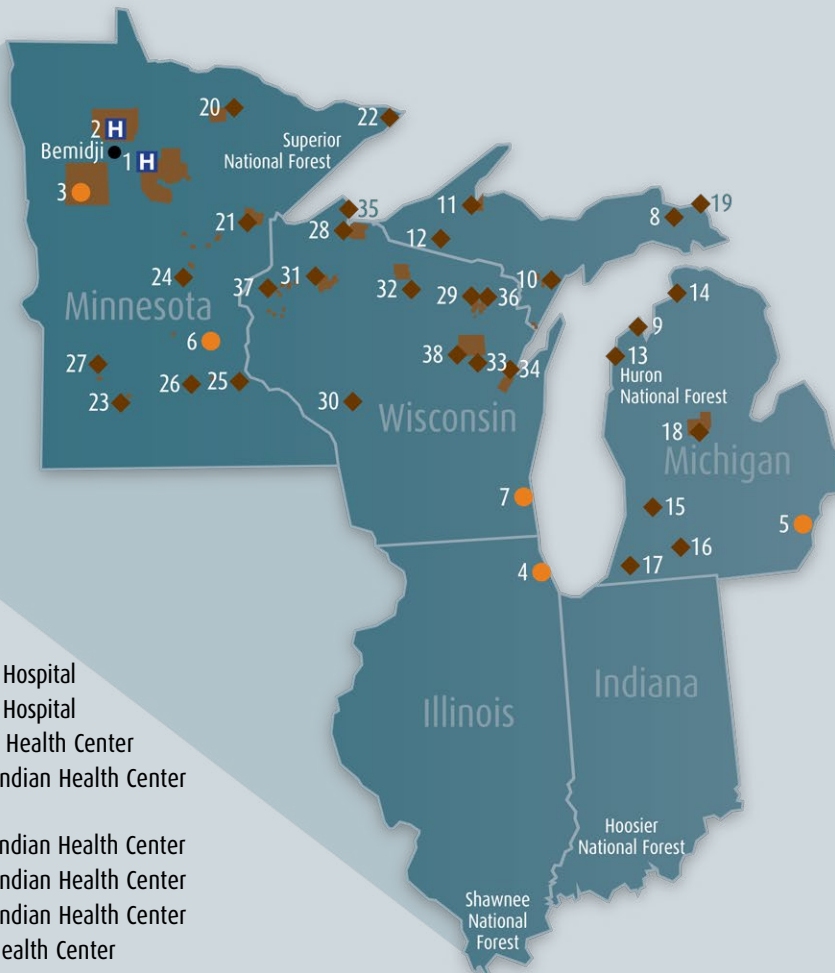
Federal Hospital  
 Federal Hospital  
 Federal Health Center  
 Urban Indian Health Center

Urban Indian Health Center  
 Urban Indian Health Center  
 Urban Indian Health Center  
 Tribal Health Center  
 Tribal Health Center  
 Tribal Health Center  
 Tribal Health Center  
 Tribal Health Center

Federal Service Units staffed by more than 500 civil service employees and USPHS Commissioned Corps officers.

Outpatient and Urban Indian Health Centers average between 35 to 75 employees.

American Indian Reservation





14 ♦ Little Traverse Bay Band	Petoskey, MI	Tribal Health Center
15 ♦ Match-e-be-nash-she-wish Band of the Potawatomi	Shelbyville, MI	Tribal Health Center
16 ♦ Nottawaseppi Huron Band of Potawatomi	Fulton, MI	Tribal Health Center
17 ♦ Pokagon Band of Potawatomi	Dowagiac, MI	Tribal Health Center
18 ♦ Saginaw Chippewa Indians	Mount Pleasant, MI	Tribal Health Center
19 ♦ Sault Ste. Marie Tribe	Sault Ste. Marie, MI	Tribal Health Center
20 ♦ Bois Forte Band	Nett Lake, MN	Tribal Health Center
21 ♦ Fond du Lac Band	Cloquet, MN	Tribal Health Center
22 ♦ Grand Portage Band	Grand Portage, MN	Tribal Health Center
23 ♦ Lower Sioux Indian Community	Morton, MN	Tribal Health Center
24 ♦ Mille Lacs Band	Onamia, MN	Tribal Health Center
25 ♦ Prairie Island Indian Community	Welch, MN	Tribal Health Center
26 ♦ Shakopee Mdewakanton Sioux Community	Prior Lake, MN	Tribal Health Center
27 ♦ Upper Sioux Community	Granite Falls, MN	Tribal Health Center
28 ♦ Bad River Band of Lake Superior Chippewa	Ashland, WI	Tribal Health Center
29 ♦ Forest County Potawatomi Community	Crandon, WI	Tribal Health Center
30 ♦ Ho-Chunk Nation	Black River Falls, WI	Tribal Health Center
31 ♦ Lac Courte Oreilles Band of Lake Superior Chippewa	Hayward, WI	Tribal Health Center
32 ♦ Lac du Flambeau Band of Lake Superior Chippewa	Lac du Flambeau, WI	Tribal Health Center
33 ♦ Menominee Indian Tribe	Keshena, WI	Tribal Health Center
34 ♦ Oneida Tribe	Oneida, WI	Tribal Health Center
35 ♦ Red Cliff Band of Lake Superior Chippewa Indians	Bayfield, WI	Tribal Health Center
36 ♦ Sokaogon Chippewa Community	Crandon, WI	Tribal Health Center
37 ♦ St. Croix Chippewa Indians	Webster, WI	Tribal Health Center
38 ♦ Stockbridge Munsee Community	Bowler, WI	Tribal Health Center



Split Rock Lighthouse State Park on the North Shore of Lake Superior in Minnesota.

## Michigan, Wisconsin, Illinois and Indiana

291 State Parks  
 117 State Forests  
 34 State Fish Hatcheries  
 121 State Wildlife Areas  
 574 State Wildlife Management Areas  
 3 National Historic Sites  
 2 National Parks  
 2 National Historic Parks  
 1 National Monument  
 1 State Reserve  
 1 State Nursery  
 10 National Forests  
 2 National Wildlife Areas  
 12 State Memorials  
 5 State Natural Areas  
 3 State Nature Preserves  
 23 National Wildlife Refuges  
 6 State Wildlife Refuges

Learn more about health profession opportunities, visit [www.ihs.gov/bemidji](http://www.ihs.gov/bemidji).

Learn more about Bemidji Area state parks and national attractions, visit [www.stateparks.com](http://www.stateparks.com).



## Discover a Work/Life Balance

Clinicians and non-health professionals working in the Bemidji Area live among miles of lakes and green pines. In the summer, you can enjoy the crisp water of the five Great Lakes, catch a ferry to picturesque Mackinaw Island or travel to the tip of Michigan's Upper Peninsula, known as the UP. In Wisconsin, you'll find loads of opportunities for hiking, canoeing, kayaking, fishing and relaxing along miles of beach shores. Minnesota, known as the Land of 10,000 Lakes, offers all kinds of water pursuits in addition to scenic trails within Superior National Forest and the Boundary Waters Canoe Area wilderness. In fact, Bemidji waterways provide record-breaking lunkers on a regular basis, with some of the widest variety of game fish in the state; duck and deer hunting are longtime Bemidji traditions as well.

While living and practicing in the Bemidji Area, you will interact daily with Native communities. You'll get to learn about Tribal heritage and customs, experience community gatherings and Tribal ceremonies and gain cultural insight into traditional Bemidji beliefs and values. You can attend a Native American Pow wow, watch a traditional Native hoop dance and meet Tribal families who still harvest maple syrup. You'll have a chance to visit the Kakagon Slough area, where local Tribes harvest wild rice beds and which boasts the largest pristine freshwater wetland estuaries in the Midwest.

Clinicians and their families will find numerous educational options, from private to public K-12 education and higher education, including a number of Tribal Colleges, as well as Big Ten Conference schools like the University of Michigan, University of Minnesota, University of Wisconsin and Northwestern University. There are also opportunities for youth to be involved in extracurricular activities including a wide variety of sports, such as hockey, soccer, baseball, basketball, curling, skiing and swimming.

◀ Photos top to bottom: Biking one of many scenic paths in Minneapolis. IHS physical therapist and patient. An ice fisherman reels in a yellow perch on a frozen Michigan lake. Opposite: Kayaking along Pictured Rocks National Lakeshore in the Michigan UP.



An aerial photograph of a rugged, light-colored rock formation (Miners Castle) on the shore of Lake Superior. The water is a vibrant turquoise color. Several kayakers in colorful kayaks (yellow, red, blue) are scattered across the water near the base of the cliff. The cliff face shows distinct horizontal rock layers and some sparse green vegetation. A small cave-like opening is visible at the base of the rock formation.

*The Bemidji Area offers watersport enthusiasts an abundance of recreational settings complete with natural wonders such as Miners Castle on the shore of Michigan's Lake Superior.*



Contact a recruiter to learn more about  
Indian health opportunities in the Bemidji Area

Indian Health Service Bemidji Area  
522 Minnesota Avenue, NW  
Bemidji, MN 56601  
Phone: (218) 444-0486

**BemidjiRecruiters@ihs.gov**  
**[ihs.gov/bemidji/recruitment](https://ihs.gov/bemidji/recruitment)**



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