



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



Vacancy Announcement

Announcement No.: **IHS-09-001(R2)***
 Opening Date: **12-30-2008**
 Closing Date: **01-30-2009**
 Area of Consideration: **Government-Wide**
And Any Qualified Indian Preference Candidates

***Candidates that submitted a complete application package for IHS-09-001 and/or IHS-09-001(R) will be given consideration and do not need to reapply.**

Vacancy Announcement Amended to include GS-13 level.

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 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:

Human Resources Officer
 GS-0201-13/14

OFFICE LOCATION:

Indian Health Service
 Northern Plains Region

Duty Station Location:

Aberdeen, South Dakota or
 Billings, Montana

SALARY RANGE:

GS-13: \$80,402 PA - \$104,525 PA

GS-14: \$95,010 PA - \$123,519 PA

- **1 Vacancy** to be filled.
- Applicants **must** identify duty station location(s) desired.
- **May require a 1-year Supervisory Probationary Period.**
- Position has **known promotion potential** to the **GS-14**.
- Position **does** contain supervisory responsibilities.
- Public Trust Background Investigation Clearance Required.
- Travel and relocation expenses **may be** paid.
- Faxed Applications **will not be accepted**.
- Supporting Documents **ONLY** will be **accepted by fax at 301.594-3146**.
- **Responding to the KSAs is REQUIRED and each KSA must be responded to separately.**
- You **must** be a U.S. citizen to qualify for this position.
- All applications and required documents (See Required Documents on Page 4) **MUST** be received by **5:00 PM** Eastern Time (ET) the date this vacancy announcement closes.
- **If you are submitting your application via the U.S. Postal Service (regardless if it is Priority Overnight or Federal Express) please allow at least three days prior to the closing date of this**

vacancy announcement due to screening of all mail prior to delivery at this facility.

BRIEF STATEMENT OF DUTIES: As the Regional Human Resources Officer, the incumbent manages and supervises subordinate supervisors, team leaders and senior staff which are located in other geographical locations within the Region. The incumbent provides managerial, administrative and supervisory services to staff throughout the Region. Routinely provides expert advisory, consultative, and technical services on a broad range of complex and controversial Human Resources (HR) issues. Serves as principal point of contact and advisor to the regional Area Offices' leadership on human resource solutions to organization business needs and strategic human capital planning. Provides advice to supervisors on labor-management and employee relations issues. The Regional HR Director assumes responsibility for the technical adequacy in the development of accurate position descriptions. Consults with management officials regarding career progression and maximum utilization of employee skills and administers the agency recruitment and placement activities which includes developing and issuing vacancy announcements, determining qualifications, identifying critical skill requirements and oversees the processing of personnel actions in accordance with applicable rules and regulations. Consults and advises senior Human Resources and Areas' management officials on recruitment, examination, and selection processes, regulations and requirements. Researches, defines, documents and utilizes the best practices regarding external recruitment techniques; assesses their applicability to the organization's short and long-term strategic goals; adopts and implements such practices and makes recommendations to senior management on local/regional policy development and modification. Provides expert guidance on major organizational planning issues such as the expected impact of reductions in work force, reorganizations or other mass changes or situations involving a broad perspective on complex, interrelated actions. Manages, coordinates and reviews classification, compensations, and position management activities. Issues guidance to regional managers to clarify issues, resolve conflicting guidance and/or to alleviate other potential or existing problems. Directs the regional employee and labor-management relations programs including negotiations and administration of collective bargaining agreements. Advises regional managers on disciplinary, adverse and performance based actions, processes grievances and responds to appeals and other third-party actions. Coordinates regional employee benefits, payroll, and employee service functions. Provides region-wide HR advisory, consultative and technical services to HR staff and all levels of line managers on issues affecting the full range of employee benefits and compensations issues. Responsible for the overall planning, development, implementation, and evaluation of the region's HR management policies and programs. Works closely with the managers to coordinate and monitor HR performance against service level agreements and performance metrics. The incumbent reports to the Director, Division of Human Resources and is accountable to the Aberdeen and Billings Area Directors.

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/qualifications/SEC-IV/A/gs-admin.asp>

GS-14: Candidates must have 1 year of specialized experience equivalent to at least the GS-13 grade level.

GS-13: Candidates must have 1 year of specialized experience equivalent to at least the GS-12 grade level.

- **Foreign Degree Note:** All foreign degrees must be evaluated by a nationally recognized accrediting agency. You must submit proof of such evaluation and/or conversion.
- **Applicants Please Note:** Education must be accredited by an accrediting institution recognized by the U.S. Department of Education in order for it to be credited towards qualification (particularly positions with a positive education requirement.) Therefore, applicants must report only attendance and/or degrees from schools accredited by accrediting institutions recognized by the U.S. Department of Education. Applicants can verify accreditation at the following website:

<http://www.ed.gov/admins/finaid/accred/index.html>.

- All education claimed by applicants will be verified by the appointing agency accordingly.

Specialized Experience: is experience that has equipped the applicant with the particular knowledge, skills, and abilities to perform successfully the duties of this position, and that is typically in or directly related to the work of this position. *Examples of specialized experience that is creditable includes: Experience serving as a senior manager, advisor and/or consultant applying advanced human resources laws, regulations, principles, precedents and policies. Experience planning, coordinating, organizing, directing, controlling, reviewing and evaluating Human Resources activities; administering a variety of HR functions and programs to provide essential support to an organization; and experience developing and implementing policies and procedures. Exceptionally high level of program management expertise and managerial competence in order to accomplish the organizations mission.*

Brief statement of duties includes other experience that is creditable specialized experience.

Applicants **must** clearly demonstrate in their application that they possess strong qualifications/experience required of this position. Your description of work experience, level of responsibility, and accomplishments will be used to determine that you meet these requirements. The 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.

Supervisory and Managerial Abilities: Candidates must demonstrate in their work experience or training that they possess or have the potential to develop the following:

- Ability to direct, assign and review work of subordinates, train, and work effectively.
- Ability to track workload status directed at accomplishing the quality and quantity of work expected within set limits of time.
- Effective oral and written communication capabilities and the ability to deal effectively with others to establish solutions to problems, issues, or questions related to work.
- Ability to understand further management goals affecting day-to-day operations.
- Ability to develop improvements in and design new work methods and procedures.
- Ability to establish program objectives and performance goals and assess progress toward achievement.
- Ability to analyze organizational and operational problems and develop timely and economical solutions.
- Ability to represent the activity both within and outside the organization or agency to gain support for goals.

Time-In-Grade Requirement: Merit Promotion candidates must have completed 52 weeks of service no more than 1 grade lower than the position to be filled.

- Applicants must meet all qualification requirements within 30 calendar days after the closing date of this announcement.

EVALUATION METHOD: Applicants who meet the basic qualification requirements described above will be further evaluated by determining the extent to which their work or related experience, education, training, awards, outside activities, and performance appraisals, etc., indicate they possess the **Knowledge, Skills, and Abilities (KSA)**, described below. All applicants **must** provide clear, concise examples that show level of accomplishment or degree to which they possess the KSA(s). The information provided will be used to determine the “Best Qualified” candidates.

Responding to KSA’s is REQUIRED and each KSA must be answered and a separate response must be made for each question.

1. Mastery and demonstrated knowledge of and experience interpreting and applying Federal HR statutory and regulatory requirements to broad human resources concepts, principles and practices in order to serve as a senior advisor/consultant to management officials and employees.
2. Demonstrated ability and extensive experience in applying analytical skills to develop innovative

approaches and solutions to complex and/or controversial issues in human resources.

3. Demonstrated ability and experience to effectively motivate and manage/supervise a staff of professional and support personnel.
4. Demonstrated ability and experience communicating orally and in writing to clearly, logically and persuasively respond/explain complicated human resources issues and policies.

These standards also cover positions in the Excepted Service filled under 5 CFR 213.3116 (b) (8) by Indians entitled to Indian Preference.

WHO MAY APPLY:

Merit Promotion Candidates (MP): Applications will be accepted from applicants who are status eligible (e.g., reinstatement eligible <http://www.usajobs.opm.gov/ei2.asp> and current permanent employees in the Competitive Federal Service) and from current permanent IHS employees in the Excepted Service.

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 applicants entitled to Indian Preference may also apply under the provision of the Indian Health Service ESEP.

- **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.**

Veterans' Preference: If you have served on active duty in the U.S. Armed Forces and were separated under honorable conditions you may be eligible for veterans' preference. For service beginning after October 15, 1976, the veteran must have served the required length of time and have a Campaign Badge, Expeditionary Medal, a service-connected disability, or have served in the Gulf War between August 2, 1990 and January 2, 1992 or for more than 180 consecutive days, any part of which occurred during the period beginning September 11, 2001, and ending on the date prescribed by Presidential proclamation or by law as the last day of Operation Iraqi Freedom or in a campaign or expedition for which a campaign medal has been authorized, such as El Salvador, Lebanon, Granada, Panama, Southwest Asia, Somalia, and Haiti.

To claim veterans' preference, veterans must submit a copy of their DD-214, Certificate of Release or Discharge from Active Duty, or other proof. Veterans with service connected disability and others claiming 10 point preference must submit [Form SF-15, Application for 10-point Veterans Preference](#). For more specifics on all veterans employment issues such as Veterans' preference or special appointing authorities see the [VetGuide](#).

The Veterans Employment Opportunity Act (VEOA) gives veterans access to job vacancies that might otherwise be closed to them. The law allows eligible veterans to compete for vacancies advertised under agency's promotion procedures when the agency is seeking applications from outside of its own workforce.

Commissioned Corps Officers: PHS Commissioned Corps Officers are invited to apply for applicable professional positions for which they are qualified. The USPHS Commissioned Corps Officers who wish to apply for this vacancy announcement must submit a resume and meet the same experience and training requirements for positions as Civil Service applicants as provided by the Indian Health Manual, Part 7, Chapter 3, **and must submit all other documents specified in this announcement including KSAs, transcripts, registration, etc.**

Career Transition Assistance Program (CTAP)/Interagency Career Transition Plan (ICTAP): Surplus or displaced employees covered by the U.S. Department of Health and Human Services CTAP program or the ICTAP program for all agencies, may apply and will be given special selection priority if determined to be eligible and well qualified. **Well qualified** is defined as displaced Federal employees who meet all education and experience requirements, applicable selective factor(s) and receive a minimum rating of 90 out of a

possible 100. For information on how to apply and required proof of eligibility, please refer to these hyperlinks: for **CTAP**: <http://career.psc.gov/chpublic/ctap.html> and for **ICTAP**: <http://career.psc.gov/chpublic/ictap.html>

HOW TO APPLY

REQUIRED DOCUMENTS:

1. Submit one of the following: OF-612, Optional Application for Federal Employment; or a resume which must include information as indicated on the OF-612. The OF-612 may be downloaded from <http://www.opm.gov/forms/html/of.htm>.
2. **A written response to each KSA.** In addressing each KSA, please include position held, specific tasks, assignments, problems resolved, your level of responsibility, and results achieved. These statements will impact on the evaluation and ranking processing.
 - **FAILURE TO SUBMIT THE ABOVE REQUIRED DOCUMENTS WILL ELIMINATE CANDIDATES FROM CONSIDERATION FOR THIS POSITION.**

REQUIRED DOCUMENTS (if applicable)

3. For Commissioned Corps, a copy of the most recent Commissioned Officers Effectiveness Report, and your current billet.
4. Current civil service employees and reinstatement eligible applicants **must submit a copy of your most recent SF-50** (Notification of Personnel Action).
5. Indian Preference applicants - to obtain preference, applicants must provide a **completed copy of Form BIA- 4432**. Applicants who wish to receive Indian Preference **MUST** submit the Form BIA-4432, *Verification of Indian Preference for Employment in BIA and IHS Only*. Indian Preference will not be given unless Form BIA-4432 is attached to the application/resume.
6. Handicapped, VEOA, VRA, disabled veteran, and others eligible under special appointing authorities must clearly specify this eligibility on their application and submit proof of appointment eligibility. If applying under VEOA or VRA, a DD-214 (Certificate of Military Discharge) must be submitted with application. If applying under disabled veteran, a DD-214, SF-15 and a letter from the Veterans Administration (if receiving disability compensation) must be submitted with application.
7. If you are substituting education for experience, or if there is a positive education requirement, you must submit a copy of your college transcript [OPM form 1170 and CSC form 226 are obsolete and are no longer accepted in lieu of the college transcript]. Education above the high school level **WILL NOT BE CREDITED** without official verification (e.g., copy of transcript).
8. Applicants are also requested, but not required, to complete an Applicant Background Survey. Submission of this survey is strictly voluntary and is available at http://www.psc.gov/forms/HHS/HHS_Applicant_Background_Survey.pdf. The form is used for statistical purposes only and will not be forwarded to the selecting officials.

HOW TO SUBMIT YOUR APPLICATION

- 1) **You may submit your application by U.S. Mail or other commercial carrier.**
Applications may be mailed to the following address:

Indian Health Service
Division of Human Resources

801 Thompson Ave., Suite 120
Rockville, Maryland 20852

Note: Applications mailed using government postage and/or internal federal government mail systems are in violation of agency and postal regulations and will not be accepted.

2) You may submit your application in person.

If you wish to submit an application in person, please bring your application to:

12300 Twinbrook Parkway, Suite 230,
Rockville, Maryland 20852

3) You may submit your application by email.

If you wish to submit your application by email, you may send it to the following email address:

HQDHR@ihs.gov

If you choose to use email to submit your application, all required supporting documents should be included as .pdf attachments to the application and included in the email submission.

Vacancy Announcements may also be downloaded from the **OPM Website, USAJOBS**, <http://www.usajobs.gov> or **IHS Website, www.ihs.gov**. **NOTE: Applicants may use the online form to assist them in developing their application. However, since the USA jobs transmission does not allow for the inclusion of attachments, the final application should be printed and all required supporting documents listed above should be included as attachments to the application, and submitted by one of the three methods above (mail, in person delivery or email).**

Faxed applications will **not** be accepted.

All applications along with all supporting documents must be received by close of business 5:00 pm Eastern Time (ET) on the closing date of this vacancy announcement. We encourage early submissions of all applications regardless of method. Applicants are also encouraged to use certified mail, or to contact the Human Resources office to confirm receipt prior to the closing date.

OTHER IMPORTANT INFORMATION:

- All applications are subject to retention. Requests for copies will not be honored. Additional information will not be solicited by this office.
- For additional information, contact Delilah Covers Up, Management Analyst, at (301) 443-6520.
- **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 Division of Human Resources at (301) 443-6520. The decision on granting reasonable accommodation will be on a case-by-case basis.
- **TTY NUMBER IS 301.443.6394**
- Before hiring, the IHS will ask you to complete the **Optional Form (OF) 306, "Declaration for Federal Employment"** to determine your suitability for Federal employment, to authorize a background investigation, and to certify the accuracy of all the information in your application. 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 IHS is a TOBACCO-FREE ENVIRONMENT and an EQUAL OPPORTUNITY EMPLOYER
