



Elizabeth A. Fowler

Director, Office of Finance and Accounting
Indian Health Service

Elizabeth A. Fowler, a member of the Comanche Nation with descendency from the Eastern Band of Cherokee Indians, is the Director of the Office of Finance and Accounting for the Indian Health Service (IHS), an agency within the Department of Health and Human Services. Ms. Fowler began her career with IHS in 1990 in the headquarters division of Personnel Management.

In December 1990, she moved to the Office of Public Health and worked in positions of increasing responsibility through October 2002. Her duties included managing the budget formulation activities within the office and involvement in special projects such as the Internal Evaluation Team, which reviewed and made recommendations on agency residual requirements.

In 1999, Ms. Fowler was named the Senior Planning Officer and also had the distinction of serving as the agency's first Government Performance and Results Act (GPRA) Coordinator. In this position, Ms. Fowler had responsibility for managing the annual evaluation cycle and coordinating the development and preparation of the IHS annual GPRA performance plan and subsequent report.

In October 2002, she became the Deputy Director for Budget Formulation within the Division of Financial Management and was responsible for directing the development of the IHS budget documents from the preliminary phase through the congressional phase and ensuring tribal consultation in the process. She has served in an acting capacity as Director of the Office of Finance and Accounting for two long-term periods, most recently overseeing the transition and implementation of the new Unified Financial Management System.

She has received numerous awards from the IHS and HHS, including the HHS Secretary's Award for Distinguished Service, various IHS Director's Awards, and the Luana Reyes Leadership Award.

Ms. Fowler attended the University of Oklahoma but received her bachelor's degree in mathematics from the University of Maryland. She has continued her professional education in business and accounting studies.