

National Indian Health Board Health Policy Fellowship



Frequently Asked Questions

Who are the NIHB Health Policy Fellows?

The National Indian Health Board Health Policy Fellows are a talented and diverse group of Native young adults who represent the federally-recognized Tribes within their Indian Health Service (IHS) area. They learn about how to effectively analyze health policy, create recommendations for change, network with important stakeholders, and advocate for health policy change on Tribal, state and national levels.

What do the NIHB Health Policy Fellows do?

NIHB Health Policy Fellows meet in-person 3 times throughout the year and attend virtual trainings to grow their team-building, Indigenous leadership, policy analysis, advocacy, and consensus-building skills. They will learn about Indian health policy and how to make positive changes to these policies.

Through working with Tribal leaders and NIHB mentors, Fellows develop policy papers with recommendations, and lead community-driven advocacy efforts.

What is expected of a NIHB Health Policy Fellow?

Fellows will meet 3 times in-person and have 5 virtual trainings that are pre-recorded. They are expected to attend all in-person meetings and all virtual trainings.

All training will be provided to enhance Fellows' ability to be top notch Indian health advocates, effective leaders, and successful policy change makers.

Am I eligible to be an NIHB Health Policy Fellow?

Native youth who are 18-24, who are an enrolled member of a federally recognized Tribe, and who are interested in exploring Indian health policy, healthcare, and governance are eligible to apply. Strong applicants demonstrate leadership qualities and engagement with their

Tribal community. One unique element of this fellowship program is that Fellows work directly with one or more of their Tribal leaders to identify, analyze and work to change a health policy issue of their choice. Thus demonstrating an established relationship with a Tribal leader or the ability to connect with a Tribal leader from their home community is important.

How long are Fellows involved in the program?

Fellowships are for 1 year (June 2019 – May 2020).

Although Fellows may not reapply to participate in the NIHB Health Policy Fellowship for a second year, the National Indian Health Board continues to communicate with alumni from the Fellowship program through offering opportunities for professional development, training, and support.

When do Fellows meet?

Fellows will meet 3 times in-person and have 5 virtual trainings that are pre-recorded. In-person meetings will likely be in Washington DC in late June (5 days), the UNITY Midyear Conference (4 days), and at the NIHB National Tribal Public Health Summit (3 days). Virtual Trainings will typically last 45-60 minutes and Fellows can join using their computer or smart phone.

What does the Fellowship cover?

NIHB will pay for travel and hotel costs to attend in-person meetings. We will also provide free opportunities for professional development, leadership, and skills building.

How do I apply? What is the deadline?

Applications will become available December 2018. The announcement will occur on NIHB's social media accounts and website.

Mail, email or fax application materials to: National Indian Health Board, Attn: Youth Department 910 Pennsylvania Avenue SE, Washington, DC 20003 wgardner@nihb.org (EMAIL) OR (202) 507-4071 (FAX).

Who do I contact with questions?

Connect with NIHB's Youth Engagement Manager, Dr. Wendee Gardner at wgardner@nihb.org or 202-548-7297.