

(3) submit to the Secretary an application and contract to the Loan Repayment Program; AND

(4) sign and submit to the Secretary, a written contract agreeing to accept repayment of educational loans and to serve for the applicable period of obligated service in a priority site as determined by the Secretary; AND

(5) sign an affidavit attesting to the fact that they have been informed of the relative merits of the U.S. Public Health Service Commissioned Corps and the Civil Service as employment options.

Upon approval of the applicant for participation in the Loan Repayment Program, the applicant will receive confirmation of his/her loan repayment award and the duty site at which he/she will serve his/her loan repayment obligation.

The IHS has identified the positions in each Indian health program for which there is a need or vacancy and ranked those positions in order of priority by developing discipline specific prioritized lists of sites. Ranking criteria for these sites include the following:

- Historically critical shortages caused by frequent staff turnover;
- Current unmatched vacancies in a Health Profession Discipline;
- Projected Vacancies in a Health Profession Discipline;
- Ensuring that the staffing needs of Indian health programs administered by an Indian tribe or tribal or health organization received consideration on an equal basis with programs that are administered directly by the Service; and

• Giving priority to vacancies in Indian health programs that have a need for health professionals to provide health care services as a result of individuals having breached Loan Repayment Program contracts entered into under this section. Consistent with this priority ranking, in determining which applications to approve and which contracts to accept, the IHS will give priority to applications made by American Indians and Alaska Natives and to individuals recruited through the efforts of Indian tribes or tribal or Indian organizations.

• With respect to priorities among the various health professions, the statute requires that of the total amount appropriated for Fiscal Year 1996 for loan repayment contracts, not less than 25 percent be provided to applicants who are nurses, nurse practitioners, or nurse midwives and not less than 10 percent be provided to applicants who are mental health professionals (other than nurses, nurse practitioners, or nurse midwives). This requirement does not apply if the number of applications

from these two groups, respectively, is not sufficient to meet the requirement.

• Subject to the above statutory priority for nurses and mental health practitioners, the IHS will give priority in funding among health professionals to physicians in the following priority specialties: anesthesiology, emergency room medicine, general surgery, obstetrics/gynecology, ophthalmology, orthopedic surgery, otolaryngology/otorhinolaryngol, psychiatry and radiology.

The following factors are equal in weight when applied, and are applied when all other criteria are equal and a selection must be made between applicants. One or all of the following factors may be applicable to an applicant, and the applicant who has the most of these factors, all other criteria equal, would be selected.

- An applicant's length of current employment in the IHS, tribal or urban program.
- Availability for service earlier than other applicants (first come, first served); and
- Date the individual's application was received.

Any individual who enters this program and satisfactorily completes his or her obligated period of service may apply to extend the contract on a year-by-year basis as determined by the IHS, at the maximum amount of up to \$30,000 per year and an additional 31 percent for Federal Withholding. If funds available, the maximum amount will be funded in this manner and will not exceed the total of the individual's outstanding eligible health professions educational loans.

Any individual who owes an obligation for health professional service to the Federal Government or to a State or other entity under an agreement with such State or other entity is not eligible for the Loan Repayment Program unless such an obligation will be completely satisfied prior to the beginning of service under this program in the year that an application is made for this program.

This program is not subject to review under Executive Order 12372.

The Catalog of Federal Domestic Assistance number is 93.164.

Dated: September 20, 1995.

Michel E. Lincoln,

Acting Director.

[FR Doc. 95-24221 Filed 9-28-95; 8:45 am]

BILLING CODE 4160-16-M

National Institutes of Health

Notice of a Meeting of the Office of AIDS Research Advisory Council (OARAC)

Pursuant to Public Law 92-463, notice is hereby given of the meeting of the Office of AIDS Research Advisory Council (OARAC) on October 19, 1995, at the National Institutes of Health (NIH), Bethesda, Maryland. The meeting will take place on October 19 from 8:30 am to 5:00 pm, in Building 31, C Wing, Sixth Floor, Conference Room 10. The meeting will be open to the public.

The purpose of the first OARAC meeting will be to introduce and welcome new council members and further familiarize them with the NIH AIDS research program. The meeting will include a presentation on the Office of AIDS Research (OAR) structure and function, and an overview of the NIH AIDS research effort in the five areas of AIDS research: Natural History, Epidemiology, and Prevention Research; Etiology and Pathogenesis; Behavioral Research; Vaccine Research and Development; and Therapeutics. There will be discussions on the NIH AIDS Research Program Evaluation; a review of the OAR Emergency Discretionary Fund and discussions on a proposal for new ways for making the best use of these funds.

Jeannette R. De Lawter, Program Analyst, Office of AIDS Research, National Institutes of Health, Building 31, Room 4B54, 9000 Rockville Pike, Bethesda, MD 20892, Phone (301) 402-3357, Fax (301) 402-3360, will furnish the meeting agenda and roster of committee members upon request. Any individual who requires special assistance, such as sign language interpretation or other reasonable accommodations, should contact Mrs. De Lawter at the above location no later than October 13.

Dated: September 22, 1995.

Margery G. Grubb,

Senior Committee Management Specialist.

[FR Doc. 95-24323 Filed 9-28-95; 8:45 am]

BILLING CODE 4140-01-M

Notice of Meeting

Notice is hereby given of the meeting of the NIH AIDS Research Program Evaluation Working Group Area Review Panel on Natural History, Epidemiology, and Prevention Research on October 17, 1995 from 1 pm to 5 pm at the Holiday Inn Bethesda, 8120 Wisconsin Avenue, Bethesda, Maryland. The meeting will be open to the public from 2 pm to 5