

Medical science research program now accepting student applications

The Four Directions Summer Research Program (FDSRP) began as an idea among American Indian students attending Harvard Medical School (HMS). With the help of a few devoted medical school faculty, the program was launched in 1994 with the successful enrollment of six students for the first summer. Nearly 150 students have participated in the program.

The focus of activity during the summer is participation in a basic science research project. Students are assigned a medical school faculty mentor who will work closely with him or her to ensure completion of a project over the eight-week summer period. Additional program goals include:

- Experience cutting-edge research at a leading medical school
- Understand the medical school application process
- Exposure to American Indian health care issues
- Integrate Native traditions, including talking circles
- Networking with American Indian students and faculty

Program eligibility

We seek students with a demonstrated commitment to the health of American Indian communities and evidence of motivation to achieve the highest goals possible. We also require the following:

- Demonstrated interest in careers in medical sciences
- Enrolled in a four-year undergraduate degree program with a minimum one year completed prior to start of program (June 2011)
- At least one introductory science course (can include biology or chemistry)
- Not taking the August MCAT (program time constraints do not allow adequate time to study for this important exam)

Important dates

- Application deadline: Feb. 12, 2011
- Decisions announced (tentative): March 5, 2011
- Program starts (tentative): June 13, 2011
- Program ends (tentative): Aug. 4, 2011

Apply online at www.fdsrp.org.

Contact information

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Opportunities for schools, students

Kaiser Permanente Health Care Career Scholarship Program

Kaiser Permanente and the Oregon Health Career Center are partnering to offer scholarships to high school seniors pursuing careers in health.

- Up to 129 scholarships are available.
- Scholarships are awarded in the amount of \$2,000.
- Applicants must attend a program-approved high school in the Kaiser Permanente Northwest service area.
- Applicants must be high school seniors when they apply.
- Scholarships are driven by teacher recommendations.

All applications must be submitted by Jan. 14, 2011. Applications and additional details can be obtained online at www.ohcc.org/kpnwscholarship. Awardees will be announced in April 2011.

Intel Schools of Distinction

Does your school demonstrate 21st century teaching and learning environments that promote excellence in math and science? Enter the 2011 Intel Schools of Distinction Awards and your school could win up to \$25,000 in cash grants from the Intel Foundation and more than \$100,000 in products and services from program award sponsors.

Six winners will be selected – two from each grade range (K-5, 6-8 and 9-12) – in each of the two categories of math and science.

Applications are due by Feb. 17, 2011.

Office of Naval Research

The Office of Naval Research is offering paid eight-week apprenticeships

to high-school students who have an interest in science (which includes social sciences), engineering or mathematics.

Program description and application guidelines (the application deadline is Jan. 7, 2011) are available at http://seap.asee.org/program_details.

Environmental challenge for K-12 students

The Siemens Foundation, Discovery Education and the National Science Teachers Association announce the kick-off of the third annual Siemens We Can Change the World Challenge, a program that educates and empowers students and teachers nationwide to become "agents of change" in identifying and solving environmental problems.

This national sustainability challenge encourages all students, from kindergarten through 12th grade, to team up with their classmates to create replicable solutions to environmental issues in their schools, community and world.

Teachers, students and mentors can log on to www.wecanchange.com to register for the Siemens We Can Change the World Challenge. Prizes, which vary according to grade level, include savings bonds, school grants, exciting trips and more. Fostering learning, teamwork and problem solving around sustainability, the website offers robust resource guides, lesson plans and teacher materials to accompany each stage of the challenge.

The deadline for all entries is March 15, 2011. Finalists and winners will be announced in April 2011 and the national winners will be announced in May 2011.

For more information, visit www.facebook.com/wecanchange.

Legal Notice

If You Are a Native American Who Tried to Get a Farm Loan or Loan Servicing From the USDA,

You Could Receive Benefits From a \$760 Million Class Action Settlement.

A class action Settlement with the United States Department of Agriculture ("USDA") has been reached. The lawsuit claimed the USDA discriminated against Native Americans who applied for or tried to apply for farm loans or loan servicing. The USDA denies it did anything wrong.

Am I included?

The Class includes all Native American farmers and ranchers who:

- Farmed or ranched or attempted to farm or ranch between January 1, 1981 and November 24, 1999;
- Tried to get a farm loan or loan servicing from the USDA during that period; **and**
- Complained about discrimination to the USDA either on their own or through a representative during the time period.

You are not eligible for this Settlement if you filed a claim, or intend to file a claim, in another USDA discrimination case like Pigford I or Pigford II (Black farmers), Garcia (Hispanic farmers) or Love (Women farmers).

Because of a law passed by Congress, you are also not eligible for this Settlement if you **either**:

- Experienced discrimination only between January 1 and November 23, 1997; **or**
- Complained of discrimination only between July 1 and November 23, 1997.

What does the Settlement provide?

The \$760 million Settlement will pay cash to Class Members for valid claims as well as attorneys' fees (between 4% and 8%, subject to Court approval) and awards. The Settlement includes up to \$80 million in USDA loan forgiveness for Class Members who qualify. The USDA will pay an additional \$20 million to implement the Settlement and will make some changes to their farm loan programs. Any money left after all payments and expenses have been made will be donated to one or more organizations that help Native American farmers and ranchers.

What can I get from the Settlement?

The amount of money you will receive will depend on whether you file a claim under Track A or Track B. It will also depend on the total number of claims that are filed and approved.

Track A – You can get a payment up to \$50,000 for your discrimination claim plus an additional 25% paid to the IRS to reduce any income tax you may owe.

Track B – You can get the amount of your actual damages up to \$250,000. Track B requires more proof than Track A.

USDA Loan Forgiveness – Under both Track A and Track B you can get forgiveness on part or all of your eligible USDA farm loans plus an additional 25% paid to the IRS to reduce any income tax you may owe.

How do I get benefits?

You will need to file a claim by **December 24, 2011** to get benefits. After the Court approves the Settlement, meetings will be held across the country to help Class Members file claims. You can register for a Claims Package at the website or by calling the toll-free number.

What are my other rights?

- If you want to keep your right to sue the USDA about the claims in this Settlement, you must exclude yourself by **February 28, 2011**. Unless you exclude yourself, you will be bound by the terms of this Settlement.
- If you stay in the Settlement, you can object to or comment on it by **February 28, 2011**.

The Court will hold a hearing on **April 28, 2011** to consider whether to approve the Settlement and the attorneys' fees. The Court has appointed attorneys to represent the Class. You or your own lawyer may ask to appear and speak at the hearing at your own expense.

For More Information: 1-888-233-5506 www.IndianFarmClass.com

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Imprints Print Shop is proud to announce the recent upgrade of its screen printer and the addition of an embroidery machine. We can now offer custom hats in addition to a long list of other apparel, including shirts and hoodies. Belong to a club, sports team or association? Promoting a big event, holiday or occasion? We can imprint your name or logo onto literally thousands of different promotional products and apparel.

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Calling all Tribal artists! Imprints is looking for original Tribal art designs for screen printing and embroidering on apparel. Stop by the store and show us what you've got. We'll pay for those designs chosen. Visit us, call, e-mail or go online.

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