



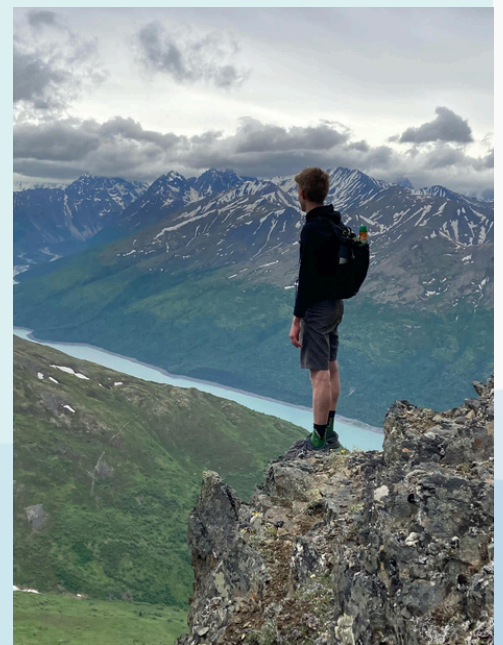
## Program Updates



Preparations are well underway for the 2024 Alaska Indigenous Research Program (AKIRP) and the AKIRP internship. Research Services is also excited to be hosting Ben Henderson, a medical student with the WWAMI (Washington, Wyoming, Alaska, Montana, and Idaho) program at the University of Alaska Anchorage location. Ben is working with Dr. Elizabeth Ferucci, an ANTHC physician and researcher, on a vasculitis study. In addition, Research Services recently welcomed three new staff members: Jordan Demientieff, Computer Programmer Analyst I; Tammy Henry, Research Associate; and Vanessa Bean, Program Coordinator.

## Intern Spotlight: Meet Ben Henderson

Dr. Ferucci has an ongoing research grant funded by National Institutes of Health/National Institute on Minority Health and Health Disparities (NIH/NIMHD) entitled "Arthritis and Autoimmune Disease Epidemiology and Impact in the Alaska Native Population." One of the three aims of this grant is to determine the prevalence of different forms of arthritis and autoimmune disease in the Alaska Native population. During Ben's rotation at ANTHC, he is focusing on the prevalence of vasculitis, an uncommon autoimmune condition involving inflammation of blood vessels in different organs. He is evaluating the prevalence of vasculitis overall, the prevalence of different subtypes of vasculitis, as well as the clinical characteristics of the most common subtypes of vasculitis. The results of this project will be helpful for clinicians who diagnose and manage these conditions.



### *Ben's Bio:*

Hello, my name is Ben Henderson. I am currently a second-year medical student in the Alaska WWAMI program through the University of Washington School of Medicine. Before I started medical school, I never thought I would be interested in rheumatology or research—now I want to do both which I credit to Dr. Ferucci for being such an amazing mentor. In my free time, I enjoy adventures with friends, card games, spending time with family, and playing the piano.

# Researcher Spotlight: Meet Dr. Elizabeth Ferucci

Elizabeth D. Ferucci, MD, MPH is a rheumatologist and clinical researcher with the Alaska Native Tribal Health Consortium in Anchorage, Alaska. In the clinical setting, she practices adult rheumatology, incorporating field clinics and telemedicine for outreach to rural patients. Her research has focused on the epidemiology of autoimmune diseases in Alaska Native and American Indian people, as well as quality of care and access to care with a focus on telemedicine in rheumatoid arthritis and other chronic diseases.

Dr. Ferucci's publications can be found here:

[www.ncbi.nlm.nih.gov/myncbi/elizabeth.ferucci.1/bibliography/public/](http://www.ncbi.nlm.nih.gov/myncbi/elizabeth.ferucci.1/bibliography/public/)



## Registration Now Open for the 2024 Alaska Indigenous Research Program (AKIRP)

AKIRP is a collaboration between the Alaska Native Tribal Health Consortium (ANTHC) and Alaska Pacific University (APU) to increase capacity for conducting culturally responsive and respectful health research that addresses the unique settings and health needs of Alaska Native and American Indian People. This year, ANTHC and APU will host the sixth annual AKIRP. AKIRP is a three week program held in person in Anchorage.

**Week One (May 6-10) - Advanced Research**

**Week Two (May 13-17) - Research Ethics**

**Week Three (May 20-24) - Introductory Research**

You can register for AKIRP or apply for a scholarship to attend AKIRP at [whoava.com/portal/registration/airp\\_202405/](http://whoava.com/portal/registration/airp_202405/)

For more information on AKIRP, visit [www.anthc.org/akirp](http://www.anthc.org/akirp) or contact [akirp@anthc.org](mailto:akirp@anthc.org).



## AKIRP Internship Applications Now Open!

Applications are now open for the 2024 Alaska Indigenous Research Program paid summer internship. You are eligible to apply if you are an Alaska Native or American Indian undergraduate or graduate student who is interested in pursuing a career in public health, research, or health care. The internship is hosted by ANTHC's Research Services department and is held in-person at the Alaska Native Health Campus in Anchorage. Interns work full-time for nine weeks, are provided housing at the Alaska Pacific University dorms, and have the opportunity to attend the AKIRP three week program. The internship runs from May 28-July 26, 2024. Interns are matched with mentors and assigned projects based on their interests, prior experience, and career goals. The program focuses on providing hands-on research and public health experience and introducing students to the principles of research ethics, research methods, culturally-responsive research, and the diverse career paths within Tribal health and health research. Applications close March 15 and can be found on the ANTHC jobs board listed as "Intern Level I - IV, Research Services (Job ID: 1671)." The jobs board is located at [anthc.org/anthc-job-openings](http://anthc.org/anthc-job-openings)



# ALASKA INDIGENOUS RESEARCH PROGRAM

PROMOTING RESILIENCE, HEALTH AND WELLNESS

## SAVE THE DATES



**MAY 6-10, 2024**

ADVANCED RESEARCH



**MAY 13-17, 2024**

RESEARCH ETHICS



**MAY 20-24, 2024**

INTRODUCTORY RESEARCH



[www.anthc.org/akirp](http://www.anthc.org/akirp)



ALASKA NATIVE  
TRIBAL HEALTH  
CONSORTIUM



ALASKA  
PACIFIC  
UNIVERSITY

## PAID STUDENT RESEARCH INTERNSHIPS



**Are you interested in helping make Indigenous communities stronger and healthier while learning more about careers in science and health research?**

ANTHC and APU invite Alaska Native and American Indian undergraduate and graduate students interested in gaining hands-on research skills and experience to apply for the Alaska Indigenous Research Program internship.

Applicants are also encouraged to attend one or more of the Alaska Indigenous Research Program weeks in May 2024.

**2024 Internship Dates: May 28-July 26 (9 weeks)**

**Location: Anchorage, Alaska**



ALASKA NATIVE  
TRIBAL HEALTH  
CONSORTIUM



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PACIFIC  
UNIVERSITY

For more information contact:  
[akirp@anthc.org](mailto:akirp@anthc.org)  
[anthc.org/akirp](http://anthc.org/akirp)



# Resources and Opportunities

## *Internships and Fellowships*

- **Urban Indian Health Institute (UIHI) Summer Public Health Internship and Fellowship**—Urban Indian Health Institute (UIHI) is offering a public health summer internship for undergraduate students and a fellowship for graduate and postgraduate students. Alaska Native and American Indian students are eligible to apply. The internship and fellowship are full-time, paid, and held in person in Seattle. These opportunities focus on public health, health research, and Indigenous methodologies. Applications for the undergraduate internship are currently open and will close on March 25. Applications for the fellowship will open soon. Learn more and apply at [www.uihi.org/about/internship-program/](http://www.uihi.org/about/internship-program/)
- **Northwest Native American Research Center for Health (NW NARCH) Research Support Fellowship**—NW NARCH is offering a paid research fellowship for Alaska Native and American Indian undergraduate and graduate students who are interested in population science careers. Fellows will conduct research, receive mentorship, participate in virtual seminars, and attend workshops in Portland, Oregon. Learn more and apply at [www.npaihb.org/narch-fellowships/](http://www.npaihb.org/narch-fellowships/)
- **Community-Driven Indigenous Research, Cultural Strengths & Leadership to Advance Equity in Substance Use Outcomes (CIRCLE) Fellowship**—The CIRCLE Fellowship is part of the Johns Hopkins Center for Indigenous Health's CIRCLE Center. It supports pilot research into substance use by Indigenous and allied new investigators. Applications close on May 1 and the fellowship begins July 1, 2024. Learn more and apply at [cih.jhu.edu/circle-fellowship/](http://cih.jhu.edu/circle-fellowship/)

## *Conferences and Symposia*

- ANTHC's Research Services will be hosting the **Alaska Native Youth Tobacco Research Symposium** in Anchorage on March 28-29, 2024 to discover, develop, and share strategies for preventing and reducing tobacco usage among Alaska Native youth. If you are interested in attending, please contact Amanda France at [afrance@anthc.org](mailto:afrance@anthc.org)
- The **18th International Congress on Circumpolar Health** will be held on June 18-20, 2024 in Yellowknife, Northwest Territories, Canada. The congress, held by the International Union for Circumpolar Health (IUCH) every 3-4 years, features interdisciplinary speakers, workshops, information sessions, and networking events focusing on improving the health of people living in the circumpolar region. Registration is currently open at [csch.ca/icch18/](http://csch.ca/icch18/)

- **American Indian Science and Engineering Society (AISES) Region 1 Conference**—Registration is open now through April 11 for the 2024 AISES Region 1 Conference, which will be held at the University of Alaska Fairbanks on April 12-13, 2024. Region 1 covers the northwestern United States and western Canada. Volunteer positions are available. Register at [www.aises.org/news/events/regional-conferences#quicktabs-regional\\_conferences=0](http://www.aises.org/news/events/regional-conferences#quicktabs-regional_conferences=0)
- The **2024 American Indian Science and Engineering Society (AISES) National Conference** will be held in San Antonio, Texas on October 3-5, 2024. It will include workshops, presentations, Indigenous cultural events, professional development, trainings, networking opportunities, and other activities with the goal of “Advancing Indigenous People in STEM”. The conference also hosts a large college and career fair. Learn more at [www.aises.org/news/events/2024-aises-national-conference](http://www.aises.org/news/events/2024-aises-national-conference)

### *Trainings and Career Development*

- **National Institute on Minority Health and Health Disparities (NIMHD)’s Health Disparities Research Institute (HDRI)**—The NIMHD, which is one of the 27 institutes and centers of the National Institutes of Health (NIH), is offering the Health Disparities Research Institute on the NIH campus in Bethesda, Maryland on August 5-9, 2024. The HDRI is an in person training which supports the career development of early-career researchers who focus on minority health and health disparities. The HDRI will include seminars and lectures on minority health and health disparities research, group discussions, and mock grant reviews. Applications close March 14. Learn more and apply at [www.nimhd.nih.gov/programs/extramural/training-career-dev/hdri/](http://www.nimhd.nih.gov/programs/extramural/training-career-dev/hdri/)
- **Northwest Native American Research Center for Health (NW NARCH) Summer Research Training Institute (SRTI)**—The SRTI is a training program for professionals and students who are interested in Alaska Native and American Indian health. The program covers research, program evaluation, and program implementation. It will be held June 10-21, 2024 in Portland, Oregon. For more information, visit [www.npaihb.org/summer-research-training-institute/](http://www.npaihb.org/summer-research-training-institute/)

### *Scholarships*

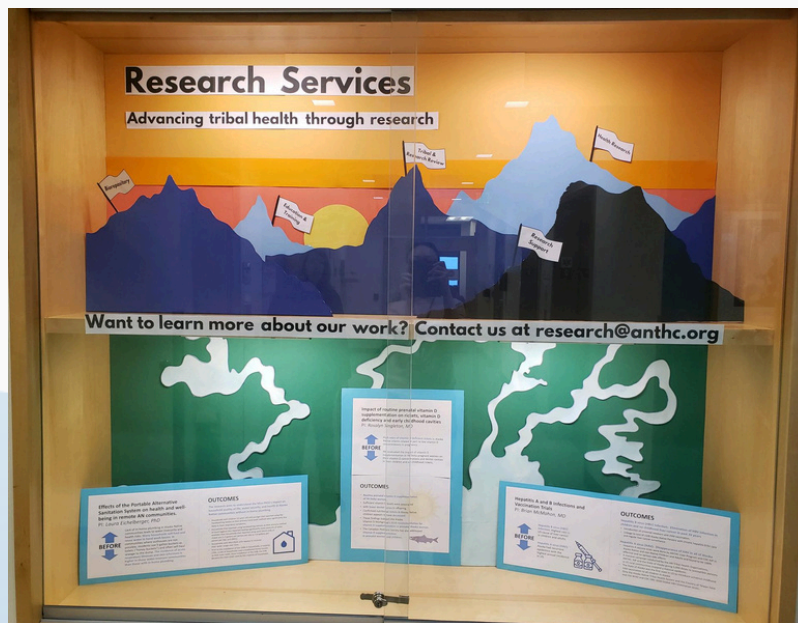
- **American Indian College Fund Scholarship**—Applications for the American Indian College Fund Scholarship are open now through May 31, 2024. You are eligible to apply if you are an American Indian or Alaska Native student enrolled in a certificate, undergraduate, or graduate program at a Tribal college or university or an accredited nonprofit non-Tribal school. Learn more and apply at [collegefund.org/students/scholarships/](http://collegefund.org/students/scholarships/). Their website also features an extensive list of additional scholarships for Alaska Native and American Indian students, which can be found at [collegefund.org/students/scholarships/additional-scholarships/](http://collegefund.org/students/scholarships/additional-scholarships/)



- **ANTHC Board of Directors \$5,000 Scholarship**—Applications are open March 1-31 for this scholarship. You are eligible to apply if you are Alaska Native or American Indian, are a permanent Alaska resident, are interested in working in a health care-related field, and are a full-time undergraduate or graduate student. For more information, visit [anthc.org/scholarship](http://anthc.org/scholarship)

### Online Resources

- **Public Health and Social Sciences-Individual Development Plan (PHaSS-IDP)**—PHaSS-IDP is a free career exploration website for students and professionals early in public health and social science careers. The site offers free assessments to help you explore your skills, your personal mission, your values, and what roles you would be interested in fulfilling in your career journey. The Career Clusters tool offers detailed information and resources on a wide variety of public health careers. It can be found at [www.careersinpublichealth.org](http://www.careersinpublichealth.org)
- **Research Services Brown Bags**—Many of you will remember attending Research Services' twice monthly virtual Brown Bags, in which researchers and public health professionals share presentations on their research findings, funding opportunities, fellowships, and more. If you would like to be added to the email list to receive the Zoom links, contact Gretchen Day at [gmday@anthc.org](mailto:gmday@anthc.org)



## Contact Us

We love to hear from you! Contact us if you have any questions, feedback, ideas, life updates, or opportunities to share at:

[chsinternships@anthc.org](mailto:chsinternships@anthc.org) / 907-729-2906

Find ANTHC at [www.anthc.org](http://www.anthc.org)



*Research Services:  
Advancing Tribal health through research*