



Denali Commission
510 L Street, Suite 410
Anchorage, AK 99501

POSITION DESCRIPTION

Health Facilities Intern May 2009-August 2009

I. Introduction

Introduced by Congress in 1998, the Denali Commission is an innovative federal-state partnership designed to provide critical utilities, infrastructure, and economic support throughout Alaska. With the creation of the Denali Commission, Congress acknowledged the need for increased inter-agency cooperation and focus on Alaska's remote communities. Since its first meeting in April 1999, the Commission is credited with providing numerous cost-shared infrastructure projects across the State that exemplifies effective and efficient partnership between federal and state agencies, and the private sector.

II. Health Facilities Program Overview

When health crises arise, options are often extremely limited in rural Alaska. Health issues or emergencies that require hospital care often involve costly air transportation that may be weather-dependent and could take as much time and money as a flight from New York to Los Angeles. For local health care, the typical rural community health facility is aging, small and inadequate to provide necessary services. In 1999, the Denali Commission designated rural health care as a top priority for Commission support and began to work toward its goal of ensuring that all rural Alaskans' health care is provided in safe and appropriate infrastructure.

In 2000, the Commission identified rural primary care facility needs in more than 288 rural communities, and estimated their costs at \$253 million. To address these needs, the Denali Commission plans, constructs and equips health facilities across the state. Potential projects include hospitals, health care clinics, and mental health facilities including drug and alcohol treatment centers. The Commission's Health Facilities program works in partnership with the US Department of Health and Human Services and Alaska health providers.

III. Position Summary and Supervisory Controls

The intern will demonstrate a willingness to voluntarily engage in cooperative efforts with staff from all sections of the agency; exhibit clear, professional communications skills that help the team achieve results; display innovation that employs new ideas to accomplish the work of the team, while being efficient with time and producing quality results.

The Intern will work with Health Facilities Program Staff on the following projects:

- Subcommittee/Steering Committee/Project Review Support
- Health Project/Award Database Reconciliation
- Regional analysis of Primary Care clinic program status
- Evaluation/recommendation re: updates to specific health program processes and policies
- Conceptual Planning tracking and system review

This position reports to the Health Facilities Program Manager.

This position is located in the Anchorage Alaska office of the Denali Commission and requires field travel to rural Alaska.

Qualifications

1. Excellent verbal and written communication skills
2. Excellent, demonstrated quantitative and qualitative analysis and reporting skills
3. Excel, Word and Database Program proficiency (i.e., Access)
4. Self-directed, energetic, multi-tasker with a commitment to excellent work products, time sensitive materials and deadlines
5. Excellent intrapersonal skills
6. Ability to travel to some rural communities to gather information, represent the Health Facilities Program and the Commission
7. Minimum of two years of college-level work in health, facilities development or engineering.