

**U.S. Department of Veterans Affairs** Veterans Health Administration



November 13, 2023

Dear Tribal Leader,

I am writing to inform all Tribal Leaders (or their designees) and Tribal Health Program Leadership that the VA MISSION Act (Public Law 115-182) Section 432 has been published in the <u>Federal Register</u>. The pilot program, which is designed to help expand health care access for Veterans in rural, tribal, and underserved areas across the country, was announced by the Department of Veterans Affairs (VA) in this <u>news release</u>.

The pilot program funds 100 physician residents' clinical rotations in non-VA health care facilities, prioritizing facilities operated by Indian tribes or tribal organizations, and the Indian Health Service.

VA will issue a request for proposals (RFP) in Summer 2024 to solicit the interest of graduate medical education (GME) sponsoring institutions and interested health care facilities to partner in establishing resident rotations beginning in July 2025. The Office of Academic Affiliations will hold information sessions for relevant stakeholders about the RFP process prior to its release.

Should you have any questions or requests for further information, please contact: Andrea Bennett, Office of Academic Affiliations, Department of Veterans Affairs, at (202) 368-0324 or VAMission403Help@va.gov.

The VA Office of Academic Affiliations team looks forward to working with you and we appreciate your support in implementing this pilot program.

Sincerely,

Marjorie A. Bowman, MD, MPA Chief Academic Affiliations Officer Office of Academic Affiliations U.S. Department of Veterans Affairs