DEPARTMENT OF HEALTH AND HUMAN SERVICES

NATIONAL INSTITUTES OF HEALTH

Vacancy Announcement

Director
National Institute of Neurological Disorders and Stroke

POSITION: The National Institutes of Health (NIH) is seeking exceptional candidates for the important position of Director, National Institute of Neurological Disorders and Stroke (NINDS). This is a senior position with responsibilities focused on basic, clinical, and epidemiological research, research training, and information programs on the hundreds of individually identified neurological disorders which afflict more than 50 million people. The roster of diseases includes those that can attach in childhood through the lifetime spectrum of those that afflict seniors. Diseases and disorders may be acute, such as stroke, or chronic, such as epilepsy, autism, and Parkinson’s disease. The effects of these diseases and disorders result in a burden in the billions of dollars and have repercussions for health care costs into the future.

The mission of NINDS is to seek fundamental knowledge about the brain and nervous system and to use that knowledge to reduce the burden of neurological disease by better understanding, diagnosis, treatment, and prevention. The NINDS has a staff of approximately 1,250 employees including full-time equivalency positions, training positions, contractors, volunteers, and guest researchers. The current annual budget is $1.68 billion.

This position offers a unique and exciting opportunity for an exceptional leader to serve as the chief visionary for NINDS and lead all aspects of this highly complex organization. The Director actively engages others to create a shared vision of the purpose and direction of the NINDS and works collaboratively within NINDS, across the NIH, and with external entities to generate, gain commitment for, and accomplish organizational goals. He/she serves as the principal advisor to the NIH Director, and indirectly to all NIH leadership, about the broad area encompassed by neurological science (fundamental neurosciences, neurological disorders, and stroke and central nervous system trauma). The Director reports directly to the NIH Director, and is regarded as NIH’s overall programmatic leader in neurological science. The incumbent provides a vision for the utilization and extraction of knowledge from the data generated by and relevant to NIH research, and advises experts throughout the agency on a variety of complex, unique, and/or sensitive situations and issues to ensure continual achievement of NIH’s dynamic biomedical research mission. The Director plays the leading role, on behalf of NIH, in coordinating and collaborating with appropriate government agencies, other funding agencies, and private organizations involved in scientific, management, and analysis, including extensive interactions with stakeholders in the research community and experts in the private sector.

LOCATION: Bethesda, MD (NIH Main Campus)

QUALIFICATIONS REQUIRED: Applicants must possess a Ph.D., M.D., or comparable doctorate degree in a field of health science plus senior-level scientific experience and knowledge of research programs in one or more areas related to neuroscience research. The individual should be known and respected, both nationally and internationally, within their profession as someone of scientific prominence, with a distinguished record of research accomplishments and leadership credentials. They should have demonstrated leadership and broad visionary capabilities in the research arena, with demonstrated ability to engage others to create and execute an organization’s vision; to navigate successfully within and collaborate across the public sector to achieve research objectives; and to optimize organizational performance by developing strategic priorities, setting and communicating clearly defined expectations, promoting accountability for results, and resolving operational problems and issues. Candidates should have demonstrated management acumen, including identification and management of financial and human resource needs; proven ability to make complex and strategic decisions to optimize resource usage, mitigate risks, and achieve desired results; and, the ability to build, mentor, motivate, and maintain a culturally diverse staff.

SALARY/BENEFITS: The Director, NINDS, will be appointed at a salary commensurate with his/her qualifications. Full Federal benefits will be provided, including vacation, health and life insurance, long-term care insurance, retirement, and savings plan (401k equivalent).

HOW TO APPLY: Applicants must submit a current CV and bibliography electronically to Ms. Regina Reiter at SeniorRe@od.nih.gov (301-402-1130). In addition, applicants must also submit a supplemental narrative statement that addresses the qualifications requirements (not to exceed a total of two pages), a vision statement (not to exceed a total of two pages), and provide the names, titles, email addresses, and telephone numbers of 4-5 references.

Information about the National Institutes of Health is located at its website (http://www.nih.gov/).

The NIH encourages the application and nomination of qualified women, minorities, and individuals with disabilities.

Standards of Conduct/Financial Disclosure: The National Institutes of Health inspires public confidence in our science by maintaining high ethical principles. NIH employees are subject to Federal government-wide regulations and statutes as well as agency-specific regulations described at the NIH Ethics website (http://ethics.od.nih.gov/). We encourage you to review this information. The position requires the incumbent to complete a public financial disclosure report prior to the effective date of the appointment.

Selection for this position will be based solely on merit, with no discrimination for non-merit reasons such as race, color, religion, gender, sexual orientation, national origin, political affiliation, marital status, disability, age, or membership or non-membership in an employee organization.

Reasonable Accommodation: NIH provides reasonable accommodations to applicants with disabilities. If you require reasonable accommodation during any part of the application and hiring process, please notify us. The decision on granting reasonable accommodation will be made on a case-by-case basis.

Applications must be received by 11:59 p.m. ET, December 8, 2014.

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Autobiographical Video (Available in DVD Format)
PBS personality Richard Thomas interviews eminent senior neuroscientists who reflect upon their lives, their dreams, and their work, and share their insights on what’s ahead in the field of neuroscience.

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