



INTERAGENCY INSTITUTE FOR FEDERAL HEALTH LEADERS



BACKGROUND

The Interagency Institute for Federal Health Leaders has been a two-week course offered semi-annually for seventy-five years, conducted under the sponsorship of the five federal health services - the Departments of the Army, Navy, Air Force, Veteran Affairs and the US Public Health Service. The Institute is held under the auspices of the Defense Health Agency and the Uniformed Services University of the Health Sciences. Dr. Richard F. Southby is the Director of the Institute and an Adjunct Professor of Military and Emergency Medicine, USU. He is also Dean and Distinguished Professor of Global Health Emeritus at The George Washington University, Washington DC.

PARTICIPANTS

A total of fifty-five medical and health service executives are named by the sponsoring agencies to attend each Institute (Due pandemic precautions only 44 participants will attend in 2024). Participants traditionally share a record of demonstrated competence in health care executive management. The individuals are selected by their respective agency to participate in the Institute because of their potential for senior leadership positions. One officer from the health service of an allied nation is also invited to attend. The academic preparation of those who attend varies widely, with a representation of graduate and professional degrees including Ph.D., M.D., D.D.S., D.V.M., M.A., M.H.A., M.P.H., M.B.A., M.P.A., B.S.N., M.S.N. and a variety of other formal educational backgrounds.

PURPOSE

The purpose of the Institute is to provide an opportunity for the seasoned, practicing federal health professional to examine some of the current issues in health care policy and management and to explore their potential impact on the federal health care system. The design of the course assumes a high level of conceptual knowledge and leadership ability on the part of the participants. Given the intelligence and sophistication of these selected executives, the faculty maximizes the learning experience by presenting materials resulting from research and experience, as well as examples and case studies from the contemporary national health policy decision-making process. Faculty members seek involvement and interaction by the participants to stimulate understanding and communication across traditional agency boundaries.

NEEDS

- Broader knowledge and understanding of current trends and issues in the health systems arena
- Continued promotion of excellence in patient care and health status
- Stronger leadership and professional networks within the federal health sector

GOALS

- To provide an opportunity for the senior federal health professional to examine the most pressing current issues affecting health care policy and management and the provision of health care services.
- To explore the potential impact of these issues and trends on the participants' organizations and professional practices.
- To promote excellence in patient care by fostering the concepts of team-work, evidence-based practice, application of information technology, outcomes-oriented performance improvement and responsible leadership.
- To provide a forum for the participating senior health leaders to present their views on the appropriateness of present and future courses of action related to health policy, management, education, and practice.
- To foster communication, sharing, mutual understanding and networking within the federal health care sector.
- To increase the level of enthusiasm and pride in the work of federal health leaders in a variety of settings.

OBJECTIVES

Upon completion of the Institute, participants will be able to:

- Describe how political, policy, economic and management trends impact health care and population health and apply this knowledge in future planning.
- Evaluate actions/activities that should be addressed to promote excellence in patient care and health promotion, i.e. teamwork, evidence-based practice, application of information technology, outcomes-oriented performance improvement and responsible leadership.
- Identify opportunities for greater interaction among peers and associates in the federal agencies to improve interagency communications and patient services.