



## 2020-2021 EIS ALUMNI ASSOCIATION EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE

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## 2022 EIS Conference: David J. Sencer Scholars

**DEADLINE: March 25, 2022**

The Epidemic Intelligence Service Alumni Association (EISAA) announces a call for applicants for the **David J. Sencer Scholarship** to participate in the 2022 EIS Conference to be held virtually from May 2–5, 2022. The EIS conference is a “flagship applied epidemiology conference where EIS officers share their work in leading-edge investigations, scientific findings, and forward-thinking strategies to inform improvements in public health”. More information can be found on the [EIS Conference website](#).

The Sencer Scholarship is named in honor of a former CDC director and was established by the EISAA to provide travel scholarships to potential applicants to attend the EIS Conference. Because this year’s conference is virtual, no monetary travel award will be granted. However, the selected Sencer Scholars will have full access to the conference program and a special virtual session only for scholars and will be assigned a Sencer Scholar alumnus/ae as a “buddy” during the conference. Scholars will receive a certificate to document their selection as a Sencer Scholar. Scholarship recipients will be expected to submit a report on their experiences and reactions to the Conference (500 word maximum) to the EISAA within one month after the Conference.

**The application period will open on March 1 and will close on March 25.** Those selected as Sencer Scholars will be notified by April 10.

Recently, there has been great emphasis on promoting diversity, equity, inclusion (DEI), accessibility, and belonging across CDC. The Alumni Association has been collaborating with the EIS Program DEI council in efforts to reach a diverse audience for EIS applicants, including historically Black, Hispanic serving, and Native American colleges and universities. We encourage applications for the Sencer Scholarship from a **diverse pool of**

## **candidates.**

Acceptance of a scholarship does not obligate the recipient to apply for the EIS fellowship, but applicants must indicate a strong interest in potentially applying for EIS and show that they will meet the eligibility requirements for EIS application within the next 1-3 years. The eligibility criteria for EIS include completing their degree/s to qualify as a:

- Physician
- Doctoral scientist (Ph.D., Dr.P.H., or doctoral degree in epidemiology, biostatistics, health informatics and related fields; the social or behavioral sciences, natural sciences, or nutrition sciences; or other relevant health science)
- Nurse
- Veterinarian
- Other allied healthcare professional (Dentist, Physician Assistant, Doctor of Pharmacy).

For applicants with a clinical background, they should also have an active, unrestricted, U.S. license to practice their clinical specialty by the time of their EIS application submission. It is also highly encouraged to have an MPH **or** equivalent degree or at least one year of full-time public health work experience. Eligibility for the Sencer Scholarship will be **limited** to U.S. citizens and permanent residents, however applications for EIS are accepted from international applicants. A letter sent out last week seeking support to recruit EIS candidates is attached to this email - in case you did not get it, and it has information on the EIS application process and some points for recruitment.

Further information on [EIS eligibility can be found here](#) and further information about EIS and the EIS Conference is available on the [EIS Conference website](#).

Please note that historically applicants who have already applied to EIS, have completed or plan to complete the CDC Epidemiology Elective, or have worked at CDC in some other role are not barred from applying for consideration for the Sencer Scholarship, but such candidates have generally not been awarded a Sencer Scholarship, because they have already been exposed to the work of EIS officers to inform decisions on applying for a future position in EIS.

### **Application Process**

Scholarship applicants should provide:

- a. A curriculum vitae (CV) that includes:
  - Name, address, telephone number, email address, citizenship/permanent resident status, and the name of current training program (if applicable)

- Relevant information about potential eligibility for EIS
- b. A brief personal statement (maximum of 500 words) describing why EIS is relevant to your career interests, how you will meet the application criteria for EIS within the next 3 years, and why attending the 2022 virtual EIS Conference and Sencer Scholar activities would be a step towards fulfilling those goals
- c. A letter of support from a mentor/faculty member. The letter should address: A) the applicant's academic achievements and personal qualities that would make him/her a good fit for the EIS fellowship, and B) how the applicant would benefit from being a Sencer Scholar invited to the 2022 virtual EIS conference.

The letter of support can be included in the email from the applicant with the rest of the application package attachments or can be emailed separately direct from the mentor/faculty member to [eisalumni@cdcfoundation.org](mailto:eisalumni@cdcfoundation.org) based on the mentor/faculty member's personal preference.

Applications should be sent to the CDC Foundation at [eisalumni@cdcfoundation.org](mailto:eisalumni@cdcfoundation.org) with the subject line "EISAA Scholarship Application."

To be considered, applications must be submitted no later than March 25, 2022, 11:59 pm EDT.

### **Distribution**

Feel free to forward this letter to interested colleagues.

*We respectfully request that you do not send this out on large listservs.*

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**[eisalumni.org](http://eisalumni.org)**

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