

**(d) Property and equipment disposal; fair market value; sale at less than full market value**

Upon the expiration of the assignment of all Corps members to a health professional shortage area, the Secretary may (notwithstanding any other provision of law) sell, to any appropriate local entity, equipment and other property of the United States utilized by such members in providing health services. Sales made under this subsection shall be made at the fair market value (as determined by the Secretary) of the equipment or such other property; except that the Secretary may make such sales for a lesser value to an appropriate local entity, if he determines that the entity is financially unable to pay the full market value.

**(e) Admitting privileges denied to Corps member by hospital; notice and hearing; denial of Federal funds for violation; "hospital" defined**

(1)(A) It shall be unlawful for any hospital to deny an authorized Corps member admitting privileges when such Corps member otherwise meets the professional qualifications established by the hospital for granting such privileges and agrees to abide by the published bylaws of the hospital and the published bylaws, rules, and regulations of its medical staff.

(B) Any hospital which is found by the Secretary, after notice and an opportunity for a hearing on the record, to have violated this subsection shall upon such finding cease, for a period to be determined by the Secretary, to receive and to be eligible to receive any Federal funds under this chapter or under titles XVIII, XIX, or XXI of the Social Security Act [42 U.S.C. 1395 et seq., 1396 et seq., 1397aa et seq.].

(2) For purposes of this subsection, the term "hospital" includes a State or local public hospital, a private profit hospital, a private non-profit hospital, a general or special hospital, and any other type of hospital (excluding a hospital owned or operated by an agency of the Federal Government), and any related facilities.

(July 1, 1944, ch. 373, title III, § 335, as added Pub. L. 94-484, title IV, § 407(b)(3), Oct. 12, 1976, 90 Stat. 2275; amended Pub. L. 97-35, title XXVII, § 2705, Aug. 13, 1981, 95 Stat. 907; Pub. L. 101-597, title I, § 106, title IV, § 401(b)[(a)], Nov. 16, 1990, 104 Stat. 3018, 3035; Pub. L. 107-251, title III, § 306, Oct. 26, 2002, 116 Stat. 1648.)

REFERENCES IN TEXT

The Social Security Act, referred to in subsec. (e)(1)(B), is act Aug. 14, 1935, ch. 531, 49 Stat. 620. Titles XVIII, XIX, and XXI of the Act are classified generally to subchapters XVIII (§1395 et seq.), XIX (§1396 et seq.), and XXI (§1397aa et seq.), respectively, of chapter 7 of this title. For complete classification of this Act to the Code, see section 1305 of this title and Tables.

AMENDMENTS

2002—Subsec. (e)(1)(B). Pub. L. 107-251 substituted "titles XVIII, XIX, or XXI of the Social Security Act" for "titles XVIII or XIX of the Social Security Act".

1990—Subsecs. (a), (b)(1)(A), (2), (d). Pub. L. 101-597, § 401(b)[(a)], substituted reference to health professional shortage area for reference to health manpower shortage area wherever appearing.

Subsec. (e)(1)(A). Pub. L. 101-597, § 106, substituted "authorized Corps member admitting privileges" for

"authorized physician or dentist member of the Corps admitting privileges".

1981—Subsec. (a)(2). Pub. L. 97-35, § 2705(a), substituted provisions respecting cooperation with other health care providers, for provisions respecting direct health services programs.

Subsec. (c)(4). Pub. L. 97-35, § 2705(b), struck out cl. (4) relating to appropriate continuing education programs.

**§ 254h-1. Facilitation of effective provision of Corps services**

**(a) Consideration of individual characteristics of members in making assignments**

In making an assignment of a Corps member to an entity that has had an application approved under section 254f of this title, the Secretary shall, subject to making the assignment in accordance with section 254f-1 of this title, seek to assign to the entity a Corps member who has (and whose spouse, if any, has) characteristics that increase the probability that the member will remain in the health professional shortage area involved after the completion of the period of service in the Corps.

**(b) Counseling on service in Corps**

**(1) In general**

The Secretary shall, subject to paragraph (3), offer appropriate counseling on service in the Corps to individuals during the period of membership in the Corps, particularly during the initial period of each assignment.

**(2) Career advisor regarding obligated service**

(A) In the case of individuals who have entered into contracts for obligated service under the Scholarship or Loan Repayment Program, counseling under paragraph (1) shall include appropriate counseling on matters particular to such obligated service. The Secretary shall ensure that career advisors for providing such counseling are available to such individuals throughout the period of participation in the Scholarship or Loan Repayment Program.

(B) With respect to the Scholarship Program, counseling under paragraph (1) shall include counseling individuals during the period in which the individuals are pursuing an educational degree in the health profession involved, including counseling to prepare the individual for service in the Corps.

**(3) Extent of counseling services**

With respect to individuals who have entered into contracts for obligated service under the Scholarship or Loan Repayment Program, this subsection shall be carried out regarding such individuals throughout the period of obligated service (and, additionally, throughout the period specified in paragraph (2)(B), in the case of the Scholarship Program). With respect to Corps members generally, this subsection shall be carried out to the extent practicable.

**(c) Grants regarding preparation of students for practice**

With respect to individuals who have entered into contracts for obligated service under the Scholarship or Loan Repayment Program, the Secretary may make grants to, and enter into

contracts with, public and nonprofit private entities (including health professions schools) for the conduct of programs designed to prepare such individuals for the effective provision of primary health services in the health professional shortage areas to which the individuals are assigned.

**(d) Professional development and training**

**(1) In general**

The Secretary shall assist Corps members in establishing and maintaining professional relationships and development opportunities, including by—

(A) establishing appropriate professional relationships between the Corps member involved and the health professions community of the geographic area with respect to which the member is assigned;

(B) establishing professional development, training, and mentorship linkages between the Corps member involved and the larger health professions community, including through distance learning, direct mentorship, and development and implementation of training modules designed to meet the educational needs of offsite Corps members;

(C) establishing professional networks among Corps members; or

(D) engaging in other professional development, mentorship, and training activities for Corps members, at the discretion of the Secretary.

**(2) Assistance in establishing professional relationships**

In providing such assistance under paragraph (1), the Secretary shall focus on establishing relationships with hospitals, with academic medical centers and health professions schools, with area health education centers under section 294a of this title, with health education and training centers under section 294b<sup>1</sup> of this title, and with border health education and training centers under such section 294b<sup>1</sup> of this title. Such assistance shall include assistance in obtaining faculty appointments at health professions schools.

**(3) Supplement not supplant**

Such efforts under this subsection shall supplement, not supplant, non-government efforts by professional health provider societies to establish and maintain professional relationships and development opportunities.

**(e) Temporary relief from Corps duties**

**(1) In general**

The Secretary shall, subject to paragraph (4), provide assistance to Corps members in establishing arrangements through which Corps members may, as appropriate, be provided temporary relief from duties in the Corps in order to pursue continuing education in the health professions, to participate in exchange programs with teaching centers, to attend professional conferences, or to pursue other interests, including vacations.

**(2) Assumption of duties of member**

(A) Temporary relief under paragraph (1) may be provided only if the duties of the Corps member involved are assumed by another health professional. With respect to such temporary relief, the duties may be assumed by Corps members or by health professionals who are not Corps members, if the Secretary approves the professionals for such purpose. Any health professional so approved by the Secretary shall, during the period of providing such temporary relief, be deemed to be a Corps member for purposes of section 233 of this title (including for purposes of the remedy described in such section), section 254f(f) of this title, and section 254h(e) of this title.

(B) In carrying out paragraph (1), the Secretary shall provide for the formation and continued existence of a group of health professionals to provide temporary relief under such paragraph.

**(3) Recruitment from general health professions community**

In carrying out paragraph (1), the Secretary shall—

(A) encourage health professionals who are not Corps members to enter into arrangements under which the health professionals temporarily assume the duties of Corps members for purposes of paragraph (1); and

(B) with respect to the entities to which Corps members have been assigned under section 254f of this title, encourage the entities to facilitate the development of arrangements described in subparagraph (A).

**(4) Limitation**

In carrying out paragraph (1), the Secretary may not, except as provided in paragraph (5), obligate any amounts (other than for incidental expenses) for the purpose of—

(A) compensating a health professional who is not a Corps member for assuming the duties of a Corps member; or

(B) paying the costs of a vacation, or other interests that a Corps member may pursue during the period of temporary relief under such paragraph.

**(5) Sole providers of health services**

In the case of any Corps member who is the sole provider of health services in the geographic area involved, the Secretary may, from amounts appropriated under section 254k of this title, obligate on behalf of the member such sums as the Secretary determines to be necessary for purposes of providing temporary relief under paragraph (1).

**(f) Determinations regarding effective service**

In carrying out subsection (a) of this section and sections 254l(d) and 254l-1(d) of this title, the Secretary shall carry out activities to determine—

(1) the characteristics of physicians, dentists, and other health professionals who are more likely to remain in practice in health professional shortage areas after the completion of the period of service in the Corps;

(2) the characteristics of health manpower shortage areas, and of entities seeking assign-

<sup>1</sup> See References in Text note below.

ments of Corps members, that are more likely to retain Corps members after the members have completed the period of service in the Corps; and

(3) the appropriate conditions for the assignment and utilization in health manpower shortage areas of certified nurse practitioners, certified nurse midwives, and physician assistants.

(July 1, 1944, ch. 373, title III, § 336, as added Pub. L. 97-35, title XXVII, § 2706(b), Aug. 13, 1981, 95 Stat. 907; amended Pub. L. 100-177, title II, § 202(d), Dec. 1, 1987, 101 Stat. 997; Pub. L. 101-597, title I, § 107, title IV, § 401(b)[(a)], Nov. 16, 1990, 104 Stat. 3018, 3035; Pub. L. 107-251, title III, § 307(a), Oct. 26, 2002, 116 Stat. 1649; Pub. L. 110-355, § 3(d), Oct. 8, 2008, 122 Stat. 3993.)

#### REFERENCES IN TEXT

Section 294b of this title, referred to in subsec. (d)(2), was repealed and a new section 294b enacted by Pub. L. 111-148, title V, § 5403(b), Mar. 23, 2010, 124 Stat. 648, and, as so enacted, no longer relates to health education and training centers.

#### PRIOR PROVISIONS

A prior section 336 of act July 1, 1944, was renumbered section 336A by Pub. L. 97-35, § 2706(a), and is classified to section 254i of this title.

#### AMENDMENTS

2008—Subsec. (d). Pub. L. 110-355 amended subsec. (d) generally. Prior to amendment, text read as follows: “The Secretary shall assist Corps members in establishing appropriate professional relationships between the Corps member involved and the health professions community of the geographic area with respect to which the member is assigned, including such relationships with hospitals, with health professions schools, with area health education centers under section 295g-1 of this title, with health education and training centers under such section, and with border health education and training centers under such section. Such assistance shall include assistance in obtaining faculty appointments at health professions schools.”

2002—Subsecs. (c), (f)(1). Pub. L. 107-251 substituted “health professional shortage areas” for “health manpower shortage areas”.

1990—Pub. L. 101-597, § 107, amended section generally. Prior to amendment, section read as follows:

“(a) The Secretary may make grants to and enter into contracts with public and private nonprofit entities for the conduct of programs which are designed to prepare individuals subject to a service obligation under the National Health Service Corps Scholarship Program or Loan Repayment Program to effectively provide health services in the health manpower shortage area to which they are assigned.

“(b) No grant may be made or contract entered into under subsection (a) of this section unless an application therefor is submitted to and approved by the Secretary. Such an application shall be in such form, submitted in such manner, and contain such information, as the Secretary shall by regulation prescribe.”

Subsec. (a). Pub. L. 101-597, § 401(b)[(a)], substituted “health professional shortage area” for “health manpower shortage area”.

1987—Subsec. (a). Pub. L. 100-177 substituted “Scholarship Program or Loan Repayment Program” for “scholarship program”.

### § 254i. Annual report to Congress; contents

The Secretary shall submit an annual report to Congress, and shall include in such report with respect to the previous calendar year—

(1) the number, identity, and priority of all health professional shortage areas designated in such year and the number of health professional shortage areas which the Secretary estimates will be designated in the subsequent year;

(2) the number of applications filed under section 254f of this title in such year for assignment of Corps members and the action taken on each such application;

(3) the number and types of Corps members assigned in such year to health professional shortage areas, the number and types of additional Corps members which the Secretary estimates will be assigned to such areas in the subsequent year, and the need for additional members for the Corps;

(4) the recruitment efforts engaged in for the Corps in such year and the number of qualified individuals who applied for service in the Corps in such year;

(5) the number of patients seen and the number of patient visits recorded during such year with respect to each health professional shortage area to which a Corps member was assigned during such year;

(6) the number of Corps members who elected, and the number of Corps members who did not elect, to continue to provide health services in health professional shortage areas after termination of their service in the Corps and the reasons (as reported to the Secretary) of members who did not elect for not making such election;

(7) the results of evaluations and determinations made under section 254f(a)(1)(D) of this title during such year; and

(8) the amount charged during such year for health services provided by Corps members, the amount which was collected in such year by entities in accordance with section 254g of this title, and the amount which was paid to the Secretary in such year under such agreements.

(July 1, 1944, ch. 373, title III, § 336A, formerly § 336, as added Pub. L. 94-484, title IV, § 407(b)(3), Oct. 12, 1976, 90 Stat. 2277, renumbered § 336A, Pub. L. 97-35, title XXVII, § 2706(a), Aug. 13, 1981, 95 Stat. 907; amended Pub. L. 97-375, title II, § 206(a), Dec. 21, 1982, 96 Stat. 1823; Pub. L. 101-597, title IV, § 401(b)[(a)], Nov. 16, 1990, 104 Stat. 3035; Pub. L. 107-251, title III, § 307(b), Oct. 26, 2002, 116 Stat. 1649.)

#### AMENDMENTS

2002—Par. (8). Pub. L. 107-251 struck out “agreements under” after “in accordance with”.

1990—Pars. (1), (3), (5), (6). Pub. L. 101-597 substituted reference to health professional shortage area for reference to health manpower shortage area wherever appearing.

1982—Pub. L. 97-375 struck out “on May 1 of each year” after “report to Congress”.

### § 254j. National Advisory Council on National Health Service Corps

#### (a) Establishment; appointment of members

There is established a council to be known as the National Advisory Council on the National Health Service Corps (hereinafter in this section referred to as the “Council”). The Council shall