

**(f) Reports**

Not later than 1 year after February 17, 2009, and annually thereafter, the Secretary shall submit to the Committee on Health, Education, Labor, and Pensions and the Committee on Finance of the Senate, and the Committee on Energy and Commerce of the House of Representatives a report that—

- (1) describes the specific projects established under this section; and
- (2) contains recommendations for Congress based on the evaluation conducted under subsection (e).

(July 1, 1944, ch. 373, title XXX, §3015, as added Pub. L. 111-5, div. A, title XIII, §13301, Feb. 17, 2009, 123 Stat. 256.)

**§ 300jj-36. Information technology professionals in health care****(a) In general**

The Secretary, in consultation with the Director of the National Science Foundation, shall provide assistance to institutions of higher education (or consortia thereof) to establish or expand medical health informatics education programs, including certification, undergraduate, and masters degree programs, for both health care and information technology students to ensure the rapid and effective utilization and development of health information technologies (in the United States health care infrastructure).

**(b) Activities**

Activities for which assistance may be provided under subsection (a) may include the following:

- (1) Developing and revising curricula in medical health informatics and related disciplines.
- (2) Recruiting and retaining students to the program involved.
- (3) Acquiring equipment necessary for student instruction in these programs, including the installation of testbed networks for student use.
- (4) Establishing or enhancing bridge programs in the health informatics fields between community colleges and universities.

**(c) Priority**

In providing assistance under subsection (a), the Secretary shall give preference to the following:

- (1) Existing education and training programs.
- (2) Programs designed to be completed in less than six months.

(July 1, 1944, ch. 373, title XXX, §3016, as added Pub. L. 111-5, div. A, title XIII, §13301, Feb. 17, 2009, 123 Stat. 257.)

**§ 300jj-37. General grant and loan provisions****(a) Reports**

The Secretary may require that an entity receiving assistance under this part shall submit to the Secretary, not later than the date that is 1 year after the date of receipt of such assistance, a report that includes—

- (1) an analysis of the effectiveness of the activities for which the entity receives such as-

istance, as compared to the goals for such activities; and

- (2) an analysis of the impact of the project on health care quality and safety.

**(b) Requirement to improve quality of care and decrease in costs**

The National Coordinator shall annually evaluate the activities conducted under this part and shall, in awarding grants, implement the lessons learned from such evaluation in a manner so that awards made subsequent to each such evaluation are made in a manner that, in the determination of the National Coordinator, will result in the greatest improvement in the quality and efficiency of health care.

(July 1, 1944, ch. 373, title XXX, §3017, as added Pub. L. 111-5, div. A, title XIII, §13301, Feb. 17, 2009, 123 Stat. 257.)

**§ 300jj-38. Authorization for appropriations**

For the purposes of carrying out this part, there is authorized to be appropriated such sums as may be necessary for each of the fiscal years 2009 through 2013.

(July 1, 1944, ch. 373, title XXX, §3018, as added Pub. L. 111-5, div. A, title XIII, §13301, Feb. 17, 2009, 123 Stat. 258.)

## PART C—OTHER PROVISIONS

**§ 300jj-51. Health information technology enrollment standards and protocols****(a) In general****(1) Standards and protocols**

Not later than 180 days after March 23, 2010,<sup>1</sup> the Secretary, in consultation with the HIT Policy Committee and the HIT Standards Committee, shall develop interoperable and secure standards and protocols that facilitate enrollment of individuals in Federal and State health and human services programs, as determined by the Secretary.

**(2) Methods**

The Secretary shall facilitate enrollment in such programs through methods determined appropriate by the Secretary, which shall include providing individuals and third parties authorized by such individuals and their designees notification of eligibility and verification of eligibility required under such programs.

**(b) Content**

The standards and protocols for electronic enrollment in the Federal and State programs described in subsection (a) shall allow for the following:

- (1) Electronic matching against existing Federal and State data, including vital records, employment history, enrollment systems, tax records, and other data determined appropriate by the Secretary to serve as evidence of eligibility and in lieu of paper-based documentation.

- (2) Simplification and submission of electronic documentation, digitization of documents, and systems verification of eligibility.

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