

serve as the regional medical library for the geographical area in which it is located.

(b) Uses for grants and contracts

The uses for which grants and contracts under this section may be employed include the—

- (1) acquisition of books, journals, and other similar materials;
- (2) cataloging, binding, and other procedures for processing library resource materials for use by those who are served by the library;
- (3) acquisition of duplicating devices and other equipment to facilitate the use of the resources of the library by those who are served by it;
- (4) acquisition of mechanisms and employment of personnel for the speedy transmission of materials from the regional library to local libraries in the geographic area served by the regional library; and
- (5) planning for services and activities under this section.

(c) Conditions

(1) Grants and contracts under this section shall only be made to or entered into with medical libraries which agree—

- (A) to modify and increase their library resources, and to supplement the resources of cooperating libraries in the region, so as to be able to provide adequate supportive services to all libraries in the region as well as to individual users of library services; and
- (B) to provide free loan services to qualified users and make available photoduplicated or facsimile copies of biomedical materials which qualified requesters may retain.

(2) The Secretary, in awarding grants and contracts under this section, shall give priority to medical libraries having the greatest potential of fulfilling the needs for regional medical libraries. In determining the priority to be assigned to any medical library, the Secretary shall consider—

- (A) the adequacy of the library (in terms of collections, personnel, equipment, and other facilities) as a basis for a regional medical library; and
- (B) the size and nature of the population to be served in the region in which the library is located.

(d) Basic resources materials; limitation on grant or contract

Grants and contracts under this section for basic resource materials to a library may not exceed—

- (1) 50 percent of the library's annual operating expense (exclusive of Federal financial assistance under this part) for the preceding year; or
- (2) in case of the first year in which the library receives a grant under this section for basic resource materials, 50 percent of its average annual operating expenses over the past three years (or if it had been in operation for less than three years, its annual operating expenses determined by the Secretary in accordance with regulations).

(July 1, 1944, ch. 373, title IV, § 475, as added Pub. L. 99-158, § 2, Nov. 20, 1985, 99 Stat. 862.)

§ 286b-7. Financial support of biomedical scientific publications

(a) The Secretary, with the advice of the Board, shall make grants to, and enter into appropriate contracts with, public or private nonprofit institutions of higher education and individual scientists for the purpose of supporting biomedical scientific publications of a nonprofit nature and to procure the compilation, writing, editing, and publication of reviews, abstracts, indices, handbooks, bibliographies, and related matter pertaining to scientific works and scientific developments.

(b) Grants under subsection (a) in support of any single periodical publication may not be made for more than three years, except in those cases in which the Secretary determines that further support is necessary to carry out the purposes of subsection (a).

(July 1, 1944, ch. 373, title IV, § 476, as added Pub. L. 99-158, § 2, Nov. 20, 1985, 99 Stat. 863.)

§ 286b-8. Grant payments, records, and audit

(a) Payments under grants made under sections 286b-3, 286b-4, 286b-5, 286b-6, and 286b-7 of this title may be made in advance or by way of reimbursement and in such installments as the Secretary shall prescribe by regulation after consultation with the Board.

(b)(1) Each recipient of a grant under this subpart shall keep such records as the Secretary shall prescribe, including records which fully disclose the amount and disposition by such recipient of the proceeds of such grant, the total cost of the project or undertaking in connection with which such grant is given or used, and the amount of that portion of the cost of the project or undertaking supplied by other sources, and such other records as will facilitate an effective audit.

(2) The Secretary and the Comptroller General of the United States, or any of their duly authorized representatives, shall have access for the purpose of audit and examination to any books, documents, papers, and records of such recipients that are pertinent to any grant received under this subpart.

(July 1, 1944, ch. 373, title IV, § 477, as added Pub. L. 99-158, § 2, Nov. 20, 1985, 99 Stat. 863.)

SUBPART 3—NATIONAL CENTER FOR BIOTECHNOLOGY INFORMATION

§ 286c. Purpose, establishment, functions, and funding of National Center for Biotechnology Information

(a) Establishment

In order to focus and expand the collection, storage, retrieval, and dissemination of the results of biotechnology research by information systems, and to support and enhance the development of new information technologies to aid in the understanding of the molecular processes that control health and disease, there is established the National Center for Biotechnology Information (hereinafter in this section referred to as the "Center") in the National Library of Medicine.