

§ 1749aaa-4. Administration

(a) Technical assistance

At the request of individuals or organizations operating or contemplating the operation of group practice facilities or medical practice facility (as defined in section 1749aaa-5 of this title), the Secretary may provide or obtain technical assistance in the planning for and construction of such facilities.

(b) Utilization of services and facilities of Federal agencies; payment; advances or reimbursement

With a view to avoiding unnecessary duplication of existing staffs and facilities of the Federal Government, the Secretary is authorized to utilize available services and facilities of any agency of the Federal Government in carrying out the provisions of this subchapter, and to pay for such services and facilities, either in advance or by way of reimbursement, in accordance with an agreement between the Secretary and the head of such agency.

(June 27, 1934, ch. 847, title XI, §1105, as added Pub. L. 89-754, title V, §502(a), Nov. 3, 1966, 80 Stat. 1276; amended Pub. L. 93-383, title III, §312(a)(5), Aug. 22, 1974, 88 Stat. 683.)

AMENDMENTS

1974—Subsec. (a). Pub. L. 93-383 substituted “or medical practice facility (as defined in section 1749aaa-5 of this title)” for “(as defined in section 1749aaa-5(1) of this title)”.

§ 1749aaa-5. Definitions

For the purposes of this subchapter—

(1) The term “group practice facility” means a facility in a State for the provision of preventive, diagnostic, and treatment services to ambulatory patients (in which patient care is under the professional supervision of persons licensed to practice medicine or osteopathy in the State or, in the case of optometric care or treatment, is under the professional supervision of persons licensed to practice optometry in the State, or, in the case of dental diagnosis or treatment, is under the professional supervision of persons licensed to practice dentistry in the State, or, in the case of podiatric care or treatment, is under the professional supervision of persons licensed to practice podiatry in the State) and which is primarily for the provision of such health services by a medical or dental group.

(2) The term “medical practice facility” means an adequately equipped facility in which not more than four persons licensed to practice medicine in the State where the facility is located can provide, as may be appropriate, preventive, diagnostic, and treatment services, and which is situated in a rural area or small town, or in a low-income section of an urban area, in which there exists, as determined by the Secretary, a critical shortage of physicians. As used in this paragraph—

(A) the term “small town” means any town, village, or city having a population of not more than 10,000 inhabitants according to the most recent available data compiled by the Bureau of the Census; and

(B) the term “low-income section of an urban area” means a section of a larger urban area in which the median family income is substantially lower, as determined by the Secretary, than the median family income for the area as a whole.

(3) The term “medical or dental group” means a partnership or other association or group of persons licensed to practice medicine, osteopathy, or surgery in the State, or of persons licensed to practice optometry in the State, or of persons licensed to practice dentistry in the State, or of persons licensed to practice podiatry in the State, or of any combination of such persons, who, as their principal professional activity and as a group responsibility, engage or undertake to engage in the coordinated practice of their profession primarily in one or more group practice facilities, and who (in this connection) share common overhead expenses (if and to the extent such expenses are paid by members of the group), medical and other records, and substantial portions of the equipment and the professional, technical, and administrative staffs, and which partnership or association or group is composed of at least such professional personnel and make available at least such health services as may be provided in regulations prescribed under this subchapter.

(4) The term “group practice unit or organization” means—

(A) a private nonprofit agency or organization undertaking to provide, directly or through arrangements with a medical or dental group, comprehensive medical care, osteopathic care, optometric care, dental care, or podiatric care, or any combination thereof, which may include hospitalization, to members or subscribers primarily on a group practice prepayments basis; or

(B) a private nonprofit agency or organization, established for the purpose of improving the availability of medical, osteopathic, optometric, dental or podiatric care in the community or having some function or functions related to the provision of such care, which will, through lease or other arrangement, make the group practice facility with respect to which assistance has been requested under this subchapter available to a medical or dental group for use by it.

(5) The term “nonprofit organization” means a corporation, association, foundation, trust, or other organization no part of the net earnings of which inures, or may lawfully inure, to the benefit of any private shareholder or individual except, in the case of an organization the purposes of which include the provision of personal health services to its members or subscribers or their dependents under a plan of such organization for the provision of such services to them (which plan may include the provision of other services or insurance benefits to them), through the provision of such health services (or such other services or insurance benefits) to such members or subscribers or dependents under such plan.

(6) The term “State” includes the Commonwealth of Puerto Rico, Guam, the Virgin Is-