

duty station at which the student intern is employed).

**(b) Cooperation with associations of colleges and universities**

**(1) Authority to cooperate**

Notwithstanding chapter 63 of title 31, the Secretary may enter into cooperative agreements on an annual basis with 1 or more associations of institutions of higher education (as defined in section 1001 of title 20) for the purpose of providing for Department participation in internship programs for graduate and undergraduate students who are selected by the associations from students attending member institutions of the associations and other institutions of higher education.

**(2) Internship program**

An internship program supported under this subsection (referred to in this subsection as an “internship program”) shall provide work assignments for students within the Department and such other activities as the association that enters into the cooperative agreement under paragraph (1) with respect to the internship program (referred to in this subsection as the “cooperating association”) and the Secretary shall determine. The nature of Department participation in an internship program shall be developed jointly by the Secretary and the cooperating association.

**(3) Program coordination**

The cooperating association shall coordinate an internship program, including—

- (A) the recruitment of students;
- (B) arrangements for travel of the students to Washington, District of Columbia, and to agency field locations;
- (C) the provision of housing for students, if required; and
- (D) all activities for the students that take place outside the Department work assignments of the students.

**(4) Number and selection of students**

**(A) Number**

A cooperative agreement entered into under paragraph (1) shall specify the number of students that the Department will host each year and a list of work assignments to be provided for the students.

**(B) Selection**

The cooperating association shall provide the Department with a pool of student candidates meeting the requirements for each work assignment identified by the Secretary. Final selection of the students for Department internship positions shall be made by the Secretary.

**(5) Cost reimbursement**

From such amounts as the Secretary determines are available each fiscal year for internship programs, and subject to such regulations as the Secretary may issue, the Secretary may reimburse a cooperating association for the Department share of all direct and indirect costs of an internship program, including student stipends, transportation costs to the in-

ternship site, and other costs of an internship program.

**(6) Lead agency**

The Secretary may designate a lead agency within the Department to carry out this subsection.

**(7) Interagency agreements**

Agencies and offices within the Department other than the lead agency—

- (A) may enter into interagency agreements with the lead agency to provide work assignments for students participating in an internship program; and
- (B) shall reimburse the lead agency for the direct and indirect costs of each student assigned to the agency under an internship program.

**(8) Federal employee status**

A student who participates in an internship program shall not be considered a Federal employee, except for purposes of chapter 81 of title 5, and chapter 171 of title 28.

(Pub. L. 104-127, title IX, §922, Apr. 4, 1996, 110 Stat. 1193; Pub. L. 105-244, title I, §102(a)(1)(A), Oct. 7, 1998, 112 Stat. 1617.)

AMENDMENTS

1998—Subsecs. (a)(1)(B), (b)(1). Pub. L. 105-244 substituted “section 1001 of title 20)” for “section 1141 of title 20)”.

EFFECTIVE DATE OF 1998 AMENDMENT

Amendment by Pub. L. 105-244 effective Oct. 1, 1998, except as otherwise provided in Pub. L. 105-244, see section 3 of Pub. L. 105-244, set out as a note under section 1001 of Title 20, Education.

**§ 2279d. Compensatory damages in claims under Rehabilitation Act of 1973**

In any claim brought under the Rehabilitation Act of 1973 [29 U.S.C. 701 et seq.] and filed with the Secretary of Agriculture after January 1994 resulting in a finding that a farmer was subjected to discrimination under any farm loan program or activity conducted by the United States Department of Agriculture in violation of section 504 of the Rehabilitation Act of 1973 (29 U.S.C. 794), the Secretary of Agriculture shall be liable for compensatory damages. Such liability shall apply to any administrative action brought before October 21, 1998, but only if the action is brought within the applicable statute of limitations and the complainant sought or seeks compensatory damages while the action is pending.

(Pub. L. 105-277, div. A, §101(a) [title VII, §742], Oct. 21, 1998, 112 Stat. 2681, 2681-31.)

REFERENCES IN TEXT

The Rehabilitation Act of 1973, referred to in text, is Pub. L. 93-112, Sept. 26, 1973, 87 Stat. 355, as amended, which is classified generally to chapter 16 (§701 et seq.) of Title 29, Labor. For complete classification of this Act to the Code, see Short Title note set out under section 701 of Title 29 and Tables.

**§ 2279e. Civil penalty**

**(a) In general**

Any person that causes harm to, or interferes with, an animal used for the purposes of official