

ments, financial agency agreements, and similar contracts or undertakings to promote initiatives designed—

(1) to enable low- and moderate-income individuals to establish one or more accounts in a federally insured depository institution that are appropriate to meet the financial needs of such individuals; and

(2) to improve access to the provision of accounts, on reasonable terms, for low- and moderate-income individuals.

(b) Program eligibility and activities

(1) In general

The Secretary shall restrict participation in any program established under subsection (a) to an eligible entity. Subject to regulations prescribed by the Secretary under this subchapter, 1 or more eligible entities may participate in 1 or several programs established under subsection (a).

(2) Account activities

Subject to regulations prescribed by the Secretary, an eligible entity may, in participating in a program established under subsection (a), offer or provide to low- and moderate-income individuals products and services relating to accounts, including—

(A) small-dollar value loans; and

(B) financial education and counseling relating to conducting transactions in and managing accounts.

(Pub. L. 111-203, title XII, §1204, July 21, 2010, 124 Stat. 2130.)

REFERENCES IN TEXT

This subchapter, referred to in subsec. (b)(1), was in the original “this title”, meaning title XII of Pub. L. 111-203, July 21, 2010, 124 Stat. 2129, known as the Improving Access to Mainstream Financial Institutions Act of 2010, which is classified principally to this subchapter. For complete classification of title XII to the Code, see Short Title note set out under section 5301 of this title and Tables.

§ 5624. Low-cost alternatives to small dollar loans

(a) Grants authorized

The Secretary is authorized to establish multiyear demonstration programs by means of grants, cooperative agreements, financial agency agreements, and similar contracts or undertakings, with eligible entities to provide low-cost, small loans to consumers that will provide alternatives to more costly small dollar loans.

(b) Terms and conditions

(1) In general

Loans under this section shall be made on terms and conditions, and pursuant to lending practices, that are reasonable for consumers.

(2) Financial literacy and education opportunities

(A) In general

Each eligible entity awarded a grant under this section shall promote and take appropriate steps to ensure the provision of financial literacy and education opportunities, such as relevant counseling services, educational courses, or wealth building pro-

grams, to each consumer provided with a loan pursuant to this section.

(B) Authority to expand access

As part of the grants, agreements, and undertakings established under this section, the Secretary may implement reasonable measures or programs designed to expand access to financial literacy and education opportunities, including relevant counseling services, educational courses, or wealth building programs to be provided to individuals who obtain loans from eligible entities under this section.

(Pub. L. 111-203, title XII, §1205, July 21, 2010, 124 Stat. 2130.)

§ 5625. Procedural provisions

An eligible entity desiring to participate in a program or obtain a grant under this subchapter shall submit an application to the Secretary, in such form and containing such information as the Secretary may require.

(Pub. L. 111-203, title XII, §1207, July 21, 2010, 124 Stat. 2132.)

REFERENCES IN TEXT

This subchapter, referred to in text, was in the original “this title”, meaning title XII of Pub. L. 111-203, July 21, 2010, 124 Stat. 2129, known as the Improving Access to Mainstream Financial Institutions Act of 2010, which is classified principally to this subchapter. For complete classification of title XII to the Code, see Short Title note set out under section 5301 of this title and Tables.

§ 5626. Authorization of appropriations

(a) Authorization to the Secretary

There are authorized to be appropriated to the Secretary, such sums as are necessary to both administer and fund the programs and projects authorized by this subchapter, to remain available until expended.

(b) Authorization to the Fund

There is authorized to be appropriated to the Fund for each fiscal year beginning in fiscal year 2010, an amount equal to the amount of the administrative costs of the Fund for the operation of the grant program established under this subchapter.

(Pub. L. 111-203, title XII, §1208, July 21, 2010, 124 Stat. 2132.)

REFERENCES IN TEXT

This subchapter, referred to in text, was in the original “this title”, meaning title XII of Pub. L. 111-203, July 21, 2010, 124 Stat. 2129, known as the Improving Access to Mainstream Financial Institutions Act of 2010, which is classified principally to this subchapter. For complete classification of title XII to the Code, see Short Title note set out under section 5301 of this title and Tables.

§ 5627. Regulations

(a) In general

The Secretary is authorized to promulgate regulations to implement and administer the grant programs and undertakings authorized by this subchapter.