

personnel system or agency personnel limitation and to a position which will enable the individual so employed to receive practical experience in the health profession in which he or she is engaged in study. Any individual so employed shall receive payment for his or her services comparable to the salary he or she would receive if he or she were employed in the competitive system. Any individual so employed shall not be counted against any employment ceiling affecting the Service or the Department of Health and Human Services.

(Pub. L. 94-437, title I, §105, Sept. 30, 1976, 90 Stat. 1404; Pub. L. 95-83, title III, §307(n)(2), Aug. 1, 1977, 91 Stat. 393; Pub. L. 96-537, §3(c), Dec. 17, 1980, 94 Stat. 3174; Pub. L. 100-713, title I, §103, Nov. 23, 1988, 102 Stat. 4786; Pub. L. 102-573, title I, §§102(e), 117(b)(2), title IX, §902(2)(B), Oct. 29, 1992, 106 Stat. 4532, 4544, 4591.)

AMENDMENTS

1992—Subsec. (a). Pub. L. 102-573, §102(e)(1), substituted “section 1613a of this title” for “section 254r of title 42”.

Subsec. (b). Pub. L. 102-573, §102(e)(2), substituted “course of study in the health professions” for “school of medicine, osteopathy, dentistry, veterinary medicine, optometry, podiatry, pharmacy, public health, nursing, or allied health professions”.

Subsec. (c). Pub. L. 102-573, §902(2)(B), substituted “Department of Health and Human Services” for “Department of Health, Education, and Welfare”.

Subsec. (d). Pub. L. 102-573, §117(b)(2), struck out subsec. (d) which authorized appropriations for fiscal years 1989 to 1992.

1988—Subsec. (d). Pub. L. 100-713 amended subsec. (d) generally. Prior to amendment, subsec. (d) read as follows: “There are authorized to be appropriated for the purpose of this section: \$600,000 for fiscal year 1978, \$800,000 for fiscal year 1979, and \$1,000,000 for fiscal year 1980. There are authorized to be appropriated to carry out this section \$990,000 for the fiscal year ending September 30, 1981, \$1,140,000 for the fiscal year ending September 30, 1982, \$1,310,000 for the fiscal year ending September 30, 1983, and \$1,510,000 for the fiscal year ending September 30, 1984.”

1980—Subsec. (d). Pub. L. 96-537 substituted provisions authorizing appropriations of specific amounts for fiscal years ending Sept. 30, 1981, Sept. 30, 1982, Sept. 30, 1983, and Sept. 30, 1984, for provisions authorizing appropriation of such amounts as may be specifically authorized by an act enacted after Sept. 30, 1976.

1977—Subsec. (a). Pub. L. 95-83 substituted reference to “section 294y-1 of title 42” for reference to “section 104” meaning section 104 of Pub. L. 94-437, which added section 234(i)(2) of Title 42, The Public Health and Welfare.

§ 1615. Continuing education allowances

In order to encourage scholarship and stipend recipients under sections 1613a, 1614, and 1616h of this title and health professionals, including community health representatives and emergency medical technicians, to join or continue in an Indian health program and to provide services in the rural and remote areas in which a significant portion of Indians reside, the Secretary, acting through the Service, may—

(1) provide programs or allowances to transition into an Indian health program, including licensing, board or certification examination assistance, and technical assistance in fulfilling service obligations under sections 1613a, 1614, and 1616h of this title; and

(2) provide programs or allowances to health professionals employed in an Indian health program to enable those professionals, for a period of time each year prescribed by regulation of the Secretary, to take leave of the duty stations of the professionals for professional consultation, management, leadership, and refresher training courses.

(Pub. L. 94-437, title I, §106, Sept. 30, 1976, 90 Stat. 1404; Pub. L. 100-713, title I, §105, Nov. 23, 1988, 102 Stat. 4787; Pub. L. 102-573, title I, §§104(a), 115, Oct. 29, 1992, 106 Stat. 4533, 4543; Pub. L. 111-148, title X, §10221(a), Mar. 23, 2010, 124 Stat. 935.)

CODIFICATION

Amendment by Pub. L. 111-148 is based on section 134(c) of title I of S. 1790, One Hundred Eleventh Congress, as reported by the Committee on Indian Affairs of the Senate in Dec. 2009, which was enacted into law by section 10221(a) of Pub. L. 111-148.

AMENDMENTS

2010—Pub. L. 111-148 amended section generally. Prior to amendment, section related to discretionary allowances to health professionals employed in the Service to take leave for professional consultation and refresher training courses and included a limitation on use of appropriations to establish postdoctoral training programs for health professionals.

1992—Subsec. (a). Pub. L. 102-573, §104(a), inserted “nurses,” after “physicians, dentists,”.

Subsec. (b). Pub. L. 102-573, §115, amended subsec. (b) generally. Prior to amendment, subsec. (b) read as follows: “There are authorized to be appropriated for the purpose of carrying out the provisions of this section—

- “(1) \$500,000 for fiscal year 1989,
- “(2) \$526,300 for fiscal year 1990,
- “(3) \$553,800 for fiscal year 1991, and
- “(4) \$582,500 for fiscal year 1992.”

1988—Subsec. (b). Pub. L. 100-713 amended subsec. (b) generally. Prior to amendment, subsec. (b) read as follows: “There are authorized to be appropriated for the purpose of this section: \$100,000 for fiscal year 1978, \$200,000 for fiscal year 1979, and \$250,000 for fiscal year 1980. For fiscal years 1981, 1982, 1983, and 1984 there are authorized to be appropriated for the purpose of this section such sums as may be specifically authorized by an Act enacted after this chapter.”

§ 1616. Community Health Representative Program

(a) Under the authority of section 13 of this title, the Secretary shall maintain a Community Health Representative Program under which the Service—

(1) provides for the training of Indians as health paraprofessionals, and

(2) uses such paraprofessionals in the provision of health care, health promotion, and disease prevention services to Indian communities.

(b) The Secretary, acting through the Community Health Representative Program of the Service, shall—

(1) provide a high standard of training for paraprofessionals to Community Health Representatives to ensure that the Community Health Representatives provide quality health care, health promotion, and disease prevention services to the Indian communities served by such Program,

(2) in order to provide such training, develop and maintain a curriculum that—