

(9) Microentrepreneur

The term “microentrepreneur” means the owner or developer of a microenterprise.

(10) Microenterprise

The term “microenterprise” means a sole proprietorship, partnership, or corporation that—

(A) has fewer than 5 employees; and

(B) generally lacks access to conventional loans, equity, or other banking services.

(11) Microenterprise development organization or program

The term “microenterprise development organization or program” means a nonprofit entity, or a program administered by such an entity, including community development corporations or other nonprofit development organizations and social service organizations, that provides services to disadvantaged entrepreneurs.

(12) Training and technical assistance

The term “training and technical assistance” means services and support provided to disadvantaged entrepreneurs, such as assistance for the purpose of enhancing business planning, marketing, management, financial management skills, and assistance for the purpose of accessing financial services.

(13) Very low-income person

The term “very low-income person” means having an income, adjusted for family size, of not more than 150 percent of the poverty line (as defined in section 9902(2) of title 42, including any revision required by that section).

(Pub. L. 103-325, title I, §172, as added Pub. L. 106-102, title VII, §725, Nov. 12, 1999, 113 Stat. 1472.)

Statutory Notes and Related Subsidiaries**SHORT TITLE**

Pub. L. 103-325, title I, §171, as added by Pub. L. 106-102, title VII, §725, Nov. 12, 1999, 113 Stat. 1471, provided that: “This subtitle [subtitle C (§§171-181) of title I of Pub. L. 103-325, as added by Pub. L. 106-102, enacting this chapter] may be cited as the ‘Program for Investment in Microentrepreneurs Act of 1999’, also referred to as the ‘PRIME Act’.”

§ 6902. Establishment of program

The Administrator shall establish a microenterprise technical assistance and capacity building grant program to provide assistance from the Administration in the form of grants to qualified organizations in accordance with this chapter.

(Pub. L. 103-325, title I, §173, as added Pub. L. 106-102, title VII, §725, Nov. 12, 1999, 113 Stat. 1473.)

§ 6903. Uses of assistance

A qualified organization shall use grants made under this chapter—

(1) to provide training and technical assistance to disadvantaged entrepreneurs;

(2) to provide training and capacity building services to microenterprise development orga-

nizations and programs and groups of such organizations to assist such organizations and programs in developing microenterprise training and services;

(3) to aid in researching and developing the best practices in the field of microenterprise and technical assistance programs for disadvantaged entrepreneurs; and

(4) for such other activities as the Administrator determines are consistent with the purposes of this chapter.

(Pub. L. 103-325, title I, §174, as added Pub. L. 106-102, title VII, §725, Nov. 12, 1999, 113 Stat. 1473.)

§ 6904. Qualified organizations

For purposes of eligibility for assistance under this chapter, a qualified organization shall be—

(1) a nonprofit microenterprise development organization or program (or a group or collaborative thereof) that has a demonstrated record of delivering microenterprise services to disadvantaged entrepreneurs;

(2) an intermediary;

(3) a microenterprise development organization or program that is accountable to a local community, working in conjunction with a State or local government or Indian tribe; or

(4) an Indian tribe acting on its own, if the Indian tribe can certify that no private organization or program referred to in this paragraph exists within its jurisdiction.

(Pub. L. 103-325, title I, §175, as added Pub. L. 106-102, title VII, §725, Nov. 12, 1999, 113 Stat. 1473.)

§ 6905. Allocation of assistance; subgrants**(a) Allocation of assistance****(1) In general**

The Administrator shall allocate assistance from the Administration under this chapter to ensure that—

(A) activities described in section 6903(1) of this title are funded using not less than 75 percent of amounts made available for such assistance; and

(B) activities described in section 6903(2) of this title are funded using not less than 15 percent of amounts made available for such assistance.

(2) Limit on individual assistance

No single person may receive more than 10 percent of the total funds appropriated under this chapter in a single fiscal year.

(b) Targeted assistance

The Administrator shall ensure that not less than 50 percent of the grants made under this chapter are used to benefit very low-income persons, including those residing on Indian reservations.

(c) Subgrants authorized**(1) In general**

A qualified organization receiving assistance under this chapter may provide grants using that assistance to qualified small and emerging microenterprise organizations and pro-