

ment of Medicine and Surgery, prior to repeal by Pub. L. 102-40, title IV, §401(a)(3), May 7, 1991, 105 Stat. 210. See Prior Provisions notes set out under sections 4101 to 4110A of this title.

§ 7301. Functions of Veterans Health Administration: in general

(a) There is in the Department of Veterans Affairs a Veterans Health Administration. The Under Secretary for Health is the head of the Administration. The Under Secretary for Health may be referred to as the Chief Medical Director.

(b) The primary function of the Administration is to provide a complete medical and hospital service for the medical care and treatment of veterans, as provided in this title and in regulations prescribed by the Secretary pursuant to this title.

(Added Pub. L. 102-40, title IV, §401(a)(3), May 7, 1991, 105 Stat. 211; amended Pub. L. 102-405, title III, §302(c)(1), (2), Oct. 9, 1992, 106 Stat. 1984.)

Editorial Notes

AMENDMENTS

1992—Subsec. (a). Pub. L. 102-405 substituted “Under Secretary for Health is” for “Chief Medical Director is” and inserted at end “The Under Secretary for Health may be referred to as the Chief Medical Director.”

§ 7302. Functions of Veterans Health Administration: health-care personnel education and training programs

(a) In order to carry out more effectively the primary function of the Veterans Health Administration and in order to assist in providing an adequate supply of health personnel to the Nation, the Secretary—

(1) to the extent feasible without interfering with the medical care and treatment of veterans, shall develop and carry out a program of education and training of health personnel; and

(2) shall carry out a major program for the recruitment, training, and employment of veterans with medical military occupation specialties as—

(A) physician assistants;

(B) expanded-function dental auxiliaries; and

(C) other medical technicians.

(b) In carrying out subsection (a)(1), the Secretary shall include in the program of education and training under that subsection the developing and evaluating of new health careers, interdisciplinary approaches, and career advancement opportunities.

(c) In carrying out subsection (a)(2), the Secretary shall include in the program of recruitment, training, and employment under that subsection measures to advise all qualified veterans with military occupation specialties referred to in that subsection, and all members of the armed forces about to be discharged or released from active duty who have such military occupation specialties, of employment opportunities with the Administration.

(d) The Secretary shall carry out subsection (a) in cooperation with the following institutions and organizations:

(1) Schools of medicine, osteopathy, dentistry, nursing, pharmacy, optometry, podiatry, public health, or allied health professions.

(2) Other institutions of higher learning.

(3) Medical centers.

(4) Academic health centers.

(5) Hospitals.

(6) Such other public or nonprofit agencies, institutions, or organizations as the Secretary considers appropriate.

(e)(1) In carrying out this section, the Secretary shall establish medical residency programs, or ensure that already established medical residency programs have a sufficient number of residency positions, at any medical facility of the Department that the Secretary determines—

(A) is experiencing a shortage of physicians; and

(B) is located in a community that is designated as a health professional shortage area (as defined in section 332 of the Public Health Service Act (42 U.S.C. 254e)).

(2) In carrying out paragraph (1), the Secretary shall—

(A) allocate the residency positions under such paragraph among occupations included in the most current determination published in the Federal Register pursuant to section 7412(a) of this title; and

(B) give priority to residency positions and programs in primary care, mental health, and any other specialty the Secretary determines appropriate.

(Added Pub. L. 102-40, title IV, §401(a)(3), May 7, 1991, 105 Stat. 211; amended Pub. L. 113-146, title III, §301(b)(1), Aug. 7, 2014, 128 Stat. 1784.)

Editorial Notes

AMENDMENTS

2014—Subsec. (e). Pub. L. 113-146 added subsec. (e).

Statutory Notes and Related Subsidiaries

INFORMATION ON CERTAIN VETERANS WITH PRIOR MEDICAL OCCUPATIONS; PROGRAM ON INTERMEDIATE CARE TECHNICIANS OF DEPARTMENT OF VETERANS AFFAIRS

Pub. L. 117-263, div. E, title LI, §5127, Dec. 23, 2022, 136 Stat. 3220, provided that:

“(a) UPDATE OF WEB PORTAL TO IDENTIFY CERTAIN VETERANS.—

“(1) UPDATE.—The Secretary of Veterans Affairs shall update web portals of the Department of Veterans Affairs to provide for a method by which a veteran who served in a medical occupation while serving as a member of the Armed Forces may elect to provide the information described in paragraph (2).

“(2) INFORMATION IN PORTAL.—The information described in this paragraph is the following:

“(A) Contact information for the veteran.

“(B) A history of the medical experience and trained competencies of the veteran.

“(3) INCLUSIONS IN HISTORY.—To the extent practicable, the history of a veteran provided under paragraph (2)(B) shall include individual critical task lists specific to the military occupational specialty of the veteran that align with standard occupational codes maintained by the Commissioner of the Bureau of Labor Statistics.

“(4) SHARING OF INFORMATION.—For purposes of facilitating civilian medical credentialing and hiring opportunities for veterans seeking to respond to a na-