

**§ 247. Assisting veterans with military emergency medical training to meet requirements for becoming civilian health care professionals**

**(a) Program**

**(1) In general**

The Secretary may establish a program, in consultation with the Secretary of Labor, consisting of awarding demonstration grants to States to streamline State requirements and procedures in order to assist veterans who held certain military occupational specialties related to medical care or who have completed certain medical training while serving in the Armed Forces of the United States to meet certification, licensure, and other requirements applicable to civilian health care professions (such as emergency medical technician, paramedic, licensed practical nurse, registered nurse, physical therapy assistant, or physician assistant professions) in the State.

**(2) Consultation and collaboration**

In determining the eligible military occupational specialties or training courses and the assistance required as described in paragraph (1), the Secretary shall consult with the Secretary of Defense, the Secretary of Veterans Affairs, and the Assistant Secretary of Labor for Veterans' Employment and Training, and shall collaborate with the initiatives carried out under section 4114 of title 38 and sections 1142 through 1144 of title 10.

**(b) Use of funds**

Amounts received as a demonstration grant under this section shall be used to—

(1) prepare and implement a plan to streamline State requirements and procedures as described in subsection (a), including by—

(A) determining the extent to which the requirements for the education, training, and skill level of civilian health care professions (such as emergency medical technicians, paramedics, licensed practical nurses, registered nurses, physical therapy assistants, or physician assistants) in the State are equivalent to requirements for the education, training, and skill level of veterans who served in medical related fields while a member of the Armed Forces of the United States; and

(B) identifying methods, such as waivers, for veterans who served in medical related fields while a member of the Armed Forces of the United States to forgo or meet any such equivalent State requirements; and

(2) if necessary to meet workforce shortages or address gaps in education, training, or skill level to meet certification, licensure or other requirements applicable to becoming a civilian health care professional (such as an emergency medical technician, paramedic, licensed practical nurse, registered nurse, physical therapy assistant, or physician assistant professions) in the State, develop or expand career pathways at institutions of higher education to support veterans in meeting such requirements.

**(c) Report**

Upon the completion of the demonstration program under this section, the Secretary shall submit to Congress a report on the program.

**(d) Funding**

No additional funds are authorized to be appropriated for the purpose of carrying out this section. This section shall be carried out using amounts otherwise available for such purpose.

**(e) Sunset**

The demonstration program under this section shall not exceed 5 years.

(July 1, 1944, ch. 373, title III, §315, as added Pub. L. 114-198, title I, §105, July 22, 2016, 130 Stat. 701.)

**Editorial Notes**

**PRIOR PROVISIONS**

A prior section 247, act July 1, 1944, ch. 373, title III, §315, as added Oct. 4, 1988, Pub. L. 100-471, §1, 102 Stat. 2284, which related to grants for treatment drugs for acquired immune deficiency syndrome, ceased to exist Mar. 31, 1989, pursuant to subsec. (d) thereof.

Another prior section 247, act July 1, 1944, ch. 373, title III, §315, as added Nov. 10, 1978, Pub. L. 95-626, title II, §203, 92 Stat. 3578; amended July 10, 1979, Pub. L. 96-32, §6(h), 93 Stat. 83, related to formula grants to States for preventive health service programs, prior to repeal by Pub. L. 99-117, §12(b), Oct. 7, 1985, 99 Stat. 495.

Another prior section 247, acts July 1, 1944, ch. 373, title III, §315, 58 Stat. 695; Oct. 30, 1970, Pub. L. 91-515, title II, §282, 84 Stat. 1308, provided for publication of health educational information, prior to repeal by Pub. L. 93-353, title I, §102(a), July 23, 1974, 88 Stat. 362. See section 242o(b) of this title.

**§ 247a. Family support groups for Alzheimer's disease patients**

**(a) Establishment; priorities**

Subject to available appropriations, the Secretary, acting through the National Institute of Mental Health, the National Institutes of Health, and the Administration on Aging, shall promote the establishment of family support groups to provide, without charge, educational, emotional, and practical support to assist individuals with Alzheimer's disease or a related memory disorder and members of the families of such individuals. In promoting the establishment of such groups, the Secretary shall give priority to—

(1) university medical centers and other appropriate health care facilities which receive Federal funds from the Secretary and which conduct research on Alzheimer's disease or provide services to individuals with such disease; and

(2) community-based programs which receive funds from the Secretary, acting through the Administration on Aging.

**(b) National network to coordinate groups**

The Secretary shall promote the establishment of a national network to coordinate the family support groups described in subsection (a).

(July 1, 1944, ch. 373, title III, §316, as added Pub. L. 99-319, title IV, §401, May 23, 1986, 100 Stat. 489; amended Pub. L. 103-43, title XX, §2008(a), June 10, 1993, 107 Stat. 210.)