

“(B) funded through the Defense Health Program.
 “(2) REQUIREMENTS DESCRIBED.—The requirements described in this paragraph are the requirements under the following provisions of law:

“(A) Section 3506(c) of title 44, United States Code.

“(B) Sections 3507 and 3508 of such title.”

CONTINUATION OF UNIFORMED SERVICES UNIVERSITY OF THE HEALTH SCIENCES

Pub. L. 104-106, div. A, title X, § 1071, Feb. 10, 1996, 110 Stat. 445, as amended by Pub. L. 104-201, div. A, title IX, § 907(b)(2), Sept. 23, 1996, 110 Stat. 2620, provided that:

“(a) POLICY.—Congress reaffirms—

“(1) the prohibition set forth in subsection (a) of section 922 of the National Defense Authorization Act for Fiscal Year 1995 (Public Law 103-337; 108 Stat. 2829; 10 U.S.C. 2112 note) regarding closure of the Uniformed Services University of the Health Sciences; and

“(2) the expression of the sense of Congress set forth in subsection (b) of such section regarding the budgetary commitment to continuation of the University.

“[(b) Repealed. Pub. L. 104-201, div. A, title IX, § 907(b)(2), Sept. 23, 1996, 110 Stat. 2620.]

“(c) BUDGETARY COMMITMENT TO CONTINUATION.—It is the sense of Congress that the Secretary of Defense should budget for the operation of the Uniformed Services University of the Health Sciences during fiscal year 1997 at a level at least equal to the level of operations conducted at the University during fiscal year 1995.”

Pub. L. 103-337, div. A, title IX, § 922, Oct. 5, 1994, 108 Stat. 2829, as amended by Pub. L. 104-201, div. A, title IX, § 907(b)(1), Sept. 23, 1996, 110 Stat. 2620, provided that:

[(a) Repealed. Pub. L. 104-201, div. A, title IX, § 907(b)(1), Sept. 23, 1996, 110 Stat. 2620. See section 2112a of this title.]

“(b) BUDGETARY COMMITMENT TO CONTINUATION.—It is the sense of Congress that the Secretary of Defense should budget for the ongoing operation of the Uniformed Services University of the Health Sciences as an institution of professional education that is vital to the education and training each year of significant numbers of personnel of the uniformed services for careers as uniformed services health care providers.

“(c) GAO EVALUATION.—Not later than June 1, 1995, the Comptroller General of the United States shall submit to Congress a detailed report on the Uniformed Services University of the Health Sciences. The report shall include the following:

“(1) A comparison of the cost of obtaining physicians for the Armed Forces from the University with the cost of obtaining physicians from other sources.

“(2) An assessment of the retention rate needs of the Armed Forces for physicians in relation to the respective retention rates of physicians obtained from the University and physicians obtained from other sources and the factors that contribute to retention rates among military physicians obtained from all sources.

“(3) A review of the quality of the medical education provided at the University with the quality of medical education provided by other sources of military physicians.

“(4) A review of the overall issue of the special needs of military medicine and how those special needs are being met by physicians obtained from University and physicians obtained from other sources.

“(5) An assessment of the extent to which the University has responded to the 1990 report of the Inspector General of the Department of Defense, including recommendations as to resolution of any continuing issues relating to management and internal fiscal controls of the University, including issues relating to the Henry M. Jackson Foundation for the Advancement of Military Medicine identified in the 1990 report.

“(6) Such other recommendations as the Comptroller General considers appropriate.”

F. EDWARD HÉBERT SCHOOL OF MEDICINE

Pub. L. 98-94, title XII, § 1265, Sept. 24, 1983, 97 Stat. 704, provided that: “The School of Medicine of the Uniformed Services University of the Health Sciences shall after the date of the enactment of this Act [Sept. 24, 1983] be known and designated as the ‘F. Edward Hébert School of Medicine’. Any reference to such school of medicine in any law, regulation, map, document, or other record of the United States shall after such date be deemed to be a reference to such school of medicine as the F. Edward Hébert School of Medicine.”

§ 2112a. Continued operation of University

The University may not be closed.

(Added Pub. L. 104-201, div. A, title IX, § 907(a)(1), Sept. 23, 1996, 110 Stat. 2620; amended Pub. L. 114-328, div. A, title VII, § 724(c), Dec. 23, 2016, 130 Stat. 2230.)

Editorial Notes

PRIOR PROVISIONS

Provisions similar to those in subsec. (a) of this section were contained in Pub. L. 103-337, div. A, title IX, § 922(a), Oct. 5, 1994, 108 Stat. 2829, which was set out as a note under section 2112 of this title prior to repeal by Pub. L. 104-201, § 907(b)(1).

Provisions similar to those in subsec. (b) of this section were contained in Pub. L. 104-106, div. A, title X, § 1071(b), Feb. 10, 1996, 110 Stat. 445, which was set out as a note under section 2112 of this title prior to repeal by Pub. L. 104-201, § 907(b)(2).

AMENDMENTS

2016—Pub. L. 114-328, § 724(c), struck out “(a) CLOSURE PROHIBITED.—” before “The University” and struck out subsec. (b). Prior to amendment, text of subsec. (b) read as follows: “During the five-year period beginning on October 1, 1996, the personnel staffing levels for the University may not be reduced below the personnel staffing levels for the University as of October 1, 1993.”

§ 2113. Administration of University

(a) The business of the University shall be conducted by the Secretary of Defense with funds appropriated for and provided by the Department of Defense.

(b) The Secretary shall appoint a President of the University (hereinafter in this chapter referred to as the “President”).

(c)(1) The Secretary, after considering the recommendations of the President, shall obtain the services of such military and civilian professors, instructors, and administrative and other employees as may be necessary to operate the University. Civilian members of the faculty and staff shall be employed under salary schedules and granted retirement and other related benefits prescribed by the Secretary (after due consideration by the Secretary) so as to place the employees of the University on a comparable basis with the employees of fully accredited schools of the health professions identified by the Secretary for purposes of this paragraph.

(2) The Secretary may confer academic titles, as appropriate, upon military and civilian members of the faculty.

(3) The military members of the faculty shall include a professor of military, naval, or air science as the Secretary may determine.

(4) The limitations in sections 5307 and 5373 of title 5 do not apply to the authority of the Secretary under paragraph (1) to prescribe salary schedules and other related benefits. In no event may the total amount of compensation paid to an employee under paragraph (1) in any year (including salary, allowances, differentials, bonuses, awards, and other similar cash payments) exceed the total amount of annual compensation (excluding expenses) specified in section 102 of title 3.

(d) The Secretary may negotiate agreements with agencies of the Federal Government to utilize on a reimbursable basis appropriate existing Federal medical resources. Under such agreements the facilities concerned will retain their identities and basic missions. The Secretary may negotiate affiliation agreements with an accredited university or universities. Such agreements may include provisions for payments for educational services provided students participating in Department of Defense educational programs.

(e) The Secretary of Defense may establish the following educational programs at the University:

(1) Postdoctoral, postgraduate, and technological institutes.

(2) A graduate school of nursing.

(3) Other schools or programs, including certificate, certification, and undergraduate degree programs, that the Secretary determines necessary in order to operate the University in a cost-effective manner.

(f) The Secretary shall also establish programs in continuing medical education for military members of the health professions to the end that high standards of health care may be maintained within the military medical services.

(g)(1) The Secretary also is authorized—

(A) to enter into contracts with, accept grants from, and make grants to the Henry M. Jackson Foundation for the Advancement of Military Medicine established under section 178 of this title, or any other nonprofit entity, for the purpose of carrying out cooperative enterprises in medical research, medical consultation, and medical education;

(B) to make available to the Henry M. Jackson Foundation for the Advancement of Military Medicine, or any other nonprofit entity, on such terms and conditions as the Secretary determines appropriate, such space, facilities, equipment, and support services within the University as the Secretary considers necessary to accomplish cooperative enterprises undertaken by such Foundation, or nonprofit entity, and the University;

(C) to enter into contracts with the Henry M. Jackson Foundation for the Advancement of Military Medicine, or any other nonprofit entity, under which the Secretary may furnish the services of such professional, technical, or clerical personnel as may be necessary to fulfill cooperative enterprises undertaken by such foundation, or nonprofit entity, and the University;

(D) to accept, hold, administer, invest, and spend any gift, devise, or bequest of personal property made to the University, including any gift, devise, or bequest for the support of

an academic chair, teaching, research, or demonstration project;

(E) to enter into agreements with the Henry M. Jackson Foundation for the Advancement of Military Medicine, or with any other nonprofit entity, under which scientists or other personnel of the Foundation or other entity may be utilized by the University for the purpose of enhancing the activities of the University in education, research, and technological applications of knowledge;

(F) to accept the voluntary services of guest scholars and other persons; and

(G) notwithstanding sections 2304,¹ 4141, and 4024 of this title, to enter into contracts and cooperative agreements with, accept grants from, and make grants to, nonprofit entities (on a sole-source basis) for the purpose specified in subparagraph (A) or for any other purpose the Secretary determines to be consistent with the mission of the University.

(2) The Secretary may not enter into any contract with the Henry M. Jackson Foundation for the Advancement of Military Medicine, or with any other entity, if the contract would obligate the University to make outlays in advance of the enactment of budget authority for such outlays.

(3) Scientists or other medical personnel utilized by the University under an agreement described in clause (E) of paragraph (1) may be appointed to any position within the University and may be permitted to perform such duties within the University as the Secretary may approve.

(4) A person who provides voluntary services under the authority of clause (F) of paragraph (1) shall be considered to be an employee of the Federal Government for the purposes of chapter 81 of title 5, relating to compensation for work-related injuries, and to be an employee of the Federal Government for the purposes of chapter 171 of title 28, relating to tort claims. Such a person who is not otherwise employed by the Federal Government shall not be considered to be a Federal employee for any other purpose by reason of the provision of such services.

(Added Pub. L. 92-426, §2(a), Sept. 21, 1972, 86 Stat. 714; amended Pub. L. 95-589, Nov. 4, 1978, 92 Stat. 2512; Pub. L. 96-513, title V, §511(64), Dec. 12, 1980, 94 Stat. 2926; Pub. L. 98-36, §3, May 27, 1983, 97 Stat. 201; Pub. L. 98-132, §2(b), Oct. 17, 1983, 97 Stat. 849; Pub. L. 99-661, div. A, title V, §505, Nov. 14, 1986, 100 Stat. 3864; Pub. L. 101-189, div. A, title VII, §726(a), (b)(1), Nov. 29, 1989, 103 Stat. 1480; Pub. L. 101-510, div. A, title XIII, §1322(a)(3), Nov. 5, 1990, 104 Stat. 1671; Pub. L. 104-106, div. A, title X, §1072(a), (b)(2), (c)(1), Feb. 10, 1996, 110 Stat. 446; Pub. L. 106-65, div. A, title XI, §1108, Oct. 5, 1999, 113 Stat. 778; Pub. L. 106-398, §1 [[div. A], title X, §1087(a)(12)], Oct. 30, 2000, 114 Stat. 1654, 1654A-291; Pub. L. 110-181, div. A, title IX, §954(a)(3)(A), (b)(1), title XI, §1116, Jan. 28, 2008, 122 Stat. 294, 361; Pub. L. 113-66, div. A, title VII, §711, Dec. 26, 2013, 127 Stat. 793; Pub. L. 114-328, div. A, title VII, §724(b), Dec. 23, 2016, 130 Stat. 2230; Pub. L. 116-283, div. A, title VII, §714(a), title XVIII, §1883(b)(2), Jan. 1, 2021, 134 Stat. 3694, 4294.)

¹ See References in Text note below.

Editorial Notes

REFERENCES IN TEXT

Section 2304 of this title, referred to in subsec. (g)(1)(G), was repealed by Pub. L. 116-283, div. A, title XVIII, §§ 1801(d), 1881(a), Jan. 1, 2021, 134 Stat. 4151, 4293, effective Jan. 1, 2022, with additional provisions for delayed implementation and applicability of existing law. Subsecs. (a) to (l) of section 2304 were transferred to various provisions in chapter 221 of this title, with the same effective date and conditions, by Pub. L. 116-283, div. A, title XVIII, § 1811(c)(2)-(5), (d)(2)-(9), Jan. 1, 2021, 134 Stat. 4165-4170.

AMENDMENTS

2021—Subsec. (g)(1)(G). Pub. L. 116-283, § 1883(b)(2), substituted “4141, and 4024 of this title” for “2361, and 2374 of this title”. Amendment directing that each reference in the text of title 10 to a section that was redesignated by title XVIII of Pub. L. 116-283, as such section was in effect before the redesignation, be amended by striking such reference and inserting a reference to the appropriate redesignated section, was not executed with respect to “section 2304”, which was redesignated as multiple sections.

Pub. L. 116-283, § 714(a), added subpar. (G).

2016—Subsec. (d). Pub. L. 114-328, § 724(b)(1), struck out “located in or near the District of Columbia” after “Federal medical resources”, “in or near the District of Columbia” after “university or universities”, and “The Secretary may enter into an agreement under which the University would become part of a national university of health sciences should such an institution be established in the vicinity of the District of Columbia.” after “educational programs.”

Subsec. (e)(3). Pub. L. 114-328, § 724(b)(2), inserted “, including certificate, certification, and undergraduate degree programs,” after “or programs”.

2013—Subsec. (g)(1)(B). Pub. L. 113-66, § 711(1), inserted “, or any other nonprofit entity” after “Military Medicine” and “, or nonprofit entity,” after “such Foundation”.

Subsec. (g)(1)(C). Pub. L. 113-66, § 711(2), inserted “, or any other nonprofit entity,” after “Military Medicine” and “, or nonprofit entity,” after “such foundation”.

2008—Subsec. (a). Pub. L. 110-181, § 954(a)(3)(A)(i), struck out after first sentence “To assist the Secretary in an advisory capacity, there is a Board of Regents for the University. The Board shall consist of—

“(1) nine persons outstanding in the fields of health and health education who shall be appointed from civilian life by the President, by and with the advice and consent of the Senate;

“(2) the Secretary of Defense, or his designee, who shall be an ex officio member;

“(3) the surgeons general of the uniformed services, who shall be ex officio members; and

“(4) the person referred to in subsection (d).”

Subsec. (b). Pub. L. 110-181, § 954(b)(1), substituted “President” for “Dean” in two places.

Pub. L. 110-181, § 954(a)(3)(A)(iv), struck out “who shall also serve as a nonvoting ex officio member of the Board” before period at end.

Pub. L. 110-181, § 954(a)(3)(A)(ii), (iii), redesignated subsec. (d) as (b) and struck out former subsec. (b) which read as follows: “The term of office of each member of the Board (other than ex officio members) shall be six years except that—

“(1) any member appointed to fill a vacancy occurring before the expiration of the term for which his predecessor was appointed shall be appointed for the remainder of such term;

“(2) the terms of office of the members first taking office shall expire, as designated by the President at the time of the appointment, three at the end of two years, three at the end of four years, and three at the end of six years; and

“(3) any member whose term of office has expired shall continue to serve until his successor is appointed.”

Subsec. (c). Pub. L. 110-181, § 954(a)(3)(A)(ii), (iii), redesignated subsec. (f) as (c) and struck out former subsec. (c) which read as follows: “One of the members of the Board (other than an ex officio member) shall be designated by the President as Chairman. He shall be the presiding officer of the Board.”

Subsec. (c)(1). Pub. L. 110-181, § 1116(1), inserted “(after due consideration by the Secretary)” before “so as” and substituted “identified by the Secretary for purposes of this paragraph” for “within the vicinity of the District of Columbia”.

Pub. L. 110-181, § 954(b)(1), substituted “President” for “Dean”.

Subsec. (c)(4). Pub. L. 110-181, § 1116(2), substituted “sections 5307 and 5373” for “section 5373” and inserted at end “In no event may the total amount of compensation paid to an employee under paragraph (1) in any year (including salary, allowances, differentials, bonuses, awards, and other similar cash payments) exceed the total amount of annual compensation (excluding expenses) specified in section 102 of title 3.”

Subsecs. (d) to (j). Pub. L. 110-181, § 954(a)(3)(A)(ii), (iii), redesignated subsecs. (d), (f), (g), (h), (i), and (j) as (b), (c), (d), (e), (f), and (g), respectively, and struck out former subsec. (e) which read as follows: “Members of the Board (other than ex officio members) while attending conferences or meetings or while otherwise performing their duties as members shall be entitled to receive compensation at a rate to be fixed by the Secretary, but not exceeding \$100 per diem and shall also be entitled to receive an allowance for necessary travel expenses while so serving away from their place of residence.”

2000—Subsec. (f). Pub. L. 106-398 designated penultimate sentence and last sentence of par. (1) as pars. (2) and (3), respectively, redesignated former par. (3) as (4), and struck out former par. (2) which read as follows: “The Secretary may exempt, at any time, a physician who is a member of the faculty from the restrictions in subsections (a), (b), and (c) of section 5532 of title 5, if the Secretary determines that such exemption is necessary to recruit or retain well-qualified physicians for the faculty of the University. An exemption granted under this paragraph shall terminate upon any break in employment with the University by a physician of three days or more. An exemption granted under this paragraph to a person shall apply to the retired pay of such person beginning with the first month after the month in which the exemption is granted. Not more than five exemptions may be in effect under this paragraph at any time.”

1999—Subsec. (f)(3). Pub. L. 106-65 added par. (3).

1996—Pub. L. 104-106, § 1072(c)(1), substituted “Administration of University” for “Board of Regents” as section catchline.

Subsec. (a). Pub. L. 104-106, § 1072(b)(2)(A), substituted “conducted by the Secretary of Defense” for “conducted by a Board of Regents (hereinafter in this chapter referred to as the ‘Board’)” and inserted after first sentence “To assist the Secretary in an advisory capacity, there is a Board of Regents for the University.”

Subsec. (d). Pub. L. 104-106, § 1072(b)(2)(B), substituted “The Secretary shall appoint” for “The Board shall appoint”.

Subsec. (e). Pub. L. 104-106, § 1072(b)(2)(C), struck out “of Defense” after “Secretary”.

Subsec. (f). Pub. L. 104-106, § 1072(b)(2)(D), (F), in par. (1), substituted “Secretary, after” for “Board, after”, “Secretary so” for “Secretary of Defense so”, and “Secretary may” for “Board may” in two places, and in par. (2), substituted “Secretary” for “Board” in two places.

Subsec. (g). Pub. L. 104-106, § 1072(b)(2)(E), substituted “Secretary may negotiate agreements” for “Board is authorized to negotiate agreements”, “Secretary may negotiate affiliation” for “Board is also authorized to negotiate affiliation”, and “Secretary may enter” for “Board may also, subject to the approval of the Secretary of Defense, enter”.

Subsec. (h). Pub. L. 104-106, § 1072(a), amended subsec. (h) generally. Prior to amendment, subsec. (h) read as

follows: “The Board may establish postdoctoral, postgraduate, and technological institutes.”

Subsecs. (i), (j). Pub. L. 104-106, §1072(b)(2)(F), substituted “Secretary” for “Board” wherever appearing.

1990—Subsec. (j)(1). Pub. L. 101-510, §1322(a)(3)(A), struck out “subject to paragraph (2),” before “to make” in subpar. (B) and before “to enter” in subpars. (C) and (E).

Subsec. (j)(2) to (5). Pub. L. 101-510, §1322(a)(3)(B), (C), redesignated pars. (3) to (5) as (2) to (4), respectively, and struck out former par. (2) which read as follows: “The authority of the Board under clauses (B), (C), and (E) of paragraph (1) may be exercised only if—

“(A) before the Board enters into any arrangement under which any space, facility, equipment, or support service is made available under clause (B) of such paragraph, before the Board enters into any contract under clause (C) of such paragraph, or before the Board enters into any agreement under clause (E) of such paragraph, it notifies the Committees on Armed Services of the Senate and the House of Representatives in writing of the proposed arrangement, contract, or agreement, as the case may be, the terms and conditions thereof, and, in the case of a proposed agreement under clause (E) of paragraph (1), any appointments proposed to be made under the authority of paragraph (4) in connection with the agreement, and

“(B) a period of fifteen days has elapsed following the date on which the notice is received by such committees.”

1989—Subsec. (f)(2). Pub. L. 101-189, §726(a), substituted “five exemptions” for “two exemptions”.

Subsec. (j)(1)(A). Pub. L. 101-189, §726(b)(1), inserted “, accept grants from, and make grants to” after “contracts with” and substituted “or any other” for “or with any other”.

1986—Subsec. (f). Pub. L. 99-661 designated existing provisions as par. (1) and added par. (2).

1983—Subsec. (j). Pub. L. 98-132 inserted “Henry M. Jackson” before “Foundation for the Advancement of Military Medicine” wherever appearing.

Pub. L. 98-36 added subsec. (j).

1980—Subsecs. (a) and (d). Pub. L. 96-513 inserted “in this chapter” after “hereinafter”.

1978—Subsec. (b)(3). Pub. L. 95-589 added par. (3).

Statutory Notes and Related Subsidiaries

EFFECTIVE DATE OF 2021 AMENDMENT

Amendment by section 1883(b)(2) of Pub. L. 116-283 effective Jan. 1, 2022, with additional provisions for delayed implementation and applicability of existing law, see section 1801(d) of Pub. L. 116-283, set out as a note preceding section 3001 of this title.

EFFECTIVE DATE OF 1980 AMENDMENT

Amendment by Pub. L. 96-513 effective Dec. 12, 1980, see section 701(b)(3) of Pub. L. 96-513, set out as a note under section 101 of this title.

RULE OF CONSTRUCTION

Pub. L. 116-283, div. A, title VII, §714(b), Jan. 1, 2021, 134 Stat. 3694, provided that: “Nothing in section 2113(g) of title 10, United States Code, as amended by subsection (a), shall be construed to limit the ability of the Secretary of Defense, in carrying out such section, to use competitive procedures to award contracts, cooperative agreements, or grants.”

TRANSFER OF FUNCTIONS

Pub. L. 101-511, title VIII, §8091, Nov. 5, 1990, 104 Stat. 1896, provided that: “Notwithstanding any other provision of law, all authority of the Board of Regents of the Uniformed Services University of the Health Sciences is hereby transferred to the Secretary of Defense, and

the Board hereafter shall be an advisory board to the Secretary of Defense.”

CERTIFICATION PROGRAM IN PROVISION OF MENTAL HEALTH SERVICES TO MEMBERS OF THE ARMED FORCES AND MILITARY FAMILIES

Pub. L. 117-263, div. A, title VII, §738, Dec. 23, 2022, 136 Stat. 2675, provided that:

“(a) IN GENERAL.—The Secretary of Defense, in consultation with the President of the Uniformed Services University of the Health Sciences, shall develop a curriculum and certification program to provide civilian mental health professionals and students in mental health-related disciplines with the specialized knowledge and skills necessary to address the unique mental health needs of members of the Armed Forces and military families.

“(b) IMPLEMENTATION.—Not later than 90 days after completing the development of the curriculum and certification program under subsection (a), the Secretary of Defense shall implement such curriculum and certification program in the Uniformed Services University of the Health Sciences.

“(c) AUTHORITY TO DISSEMINATE BEST PRACTICES.—The Secretary of Defense may disseminate best practices based on the curriculum and certification program developed and implemented under this section to other institutions of higher education, as such term is defined in section 102 of the Higher Education Act of 1965 (20 U.S.C. 1002).

“(d) TERMINATION.—The authority to carry out the curriculum and certification program under this section shall terminate on the date that is five years after the date of the enactment of this Act [Dec. 23, 2022].

“(e) BRIEFING.—Not later than 180 days after the termination date specified in subsection (d), the Secretary of Defense shall provide to the Committees on Armed Services of the House of Representatives and the Senate a briefing on the results of the curriculum and certification program developed and implemented under this section.”

§ 2113a. Board of Regents

(a) IN GENERAL.—To assist the Secretary of Defense in an advisory capacity, there is a Board of Regents of the University.

(b) MEMBERSHIP.—The Board shall consist of—

(1) nine persons outstanding in the fields of health care, higher education administration, or public policy who shall be appointed from civilian life by the Secretary of Defense;

(2) the Secretary of Defense, or his designee, who shall be an ex officio member;

(3) the Director of the Defense Health Agency, who shall be an ex officio member;

(4) the surgeons general of the uniformed services, who shall be ex officio members; and

(5) the President of the University, who shall be a nonvoting ex officio member.

(c) TERM OF OFFICE.—The term of office of each member of the Board (other than ex officio members) shall be six years except that—

(1) any member appointed to fill a vacancy occurring before the expiration of the term for which his predecessor was appointed shall be appointed for the remainder of such term; and

(2) any member whose term of office has expired shall continue to serve until his successor is appointed.

(d) CHAIRMAN.—One of the members of the Board (other than an ex officio member) shall be designated by the Secretary as Chairman. He shall be the presiding officer of the Board.

(e) COMPENSATION.—Members of the Board (other than ex officio members) while attending