

**(e) Rule of construction**

This section shall not be construed to require any State to participate in the project described in this section.

**(f) Report****(1) In general**

The Secretary shall evaluate the participation of individuals in the demonstration projects under this section and prepare and submit a report containing the information described in paragraph (2) to—

(A) the Committee on Health, Education, Labor, and Pensions of the Senate;

(B) the Subcommittee on Labor, Health and Human Services, and Education of the Committee on Appropriations of the Senate;

(C) the Committee on Energy and Commerce of the House of Representatives; and

(D) the Subcommittee on Labor, Health and Human Services, and Education of the Committee on Appropriations of the House of Representatives.

**(2) Content**

The report described in paragraph (1) shall detail—

(A) the manner in which the demonstration project described in this section has affected access to primary care services, patient satisfaction, quality of care, and health care services provided for traditionally underserved populations;

(B) how the participation of chiropractic doctors and pharmacists in the Loan Repayment Program might affect the designation of health professional shortage areas; and

(C) whether adding chiropractic doctors and pharmacists as permanent members of the National Health Service Corps would be feasible and would enhance the effectiveness of the National Health Service Corps.

**(g) Authorization of appropriations****(1) In general**

There are authorized to be appropriated to carry out this section, such sums as may be necessary for fiscal years 2002 through 2004.

**(2) Fiscal year 2005**

If the Secretary determines and certifies to Congress by not later than September 30, 2004, that the number of individuals participating in the demonstration project established under this section is insufficient for purposes of performing the evaluation described in subsection (f)(1), the authorization of appropriations under paragraph (1) shall be extended to include fiscal year 2005.

(July 1, 1944, ch. 373, title III, § 338L, as added Pub. L. 107-251, title III, § 317, Oct. 26, 2002, 116 Stat. 1653.)

**Editorial Notes****PRIOR PROVISIONS**

A prior section 254t, act July 1, 1944, ch. 373, title III, § 338L, as added Pub. L. 101-527, § 8, Nov. 6, 1990, 104 Stat. 2328, related to demonstration grants to States for community scholarship programs, prior to repeal by Pub. L. 107-251, title III, § 316, Oct. 26, 2002, 116 Stat. 1653.

**§ 254u. Public health departments****(a) In general**

To the extent that funds are appropriated under subsection (e), the Secretary shall establish a demonstration project to provide for the participation of individuals who are eligible for the Loan Repayment Program described in section 254l-1 of this title and who agree to complete their service obligation in a State health department that provides a significant amount of service to health professional shortage areas or areas at risk of a public health emergency, as determined by the Secretary, or in a local or tribal health department that serves a health professional shortage area or an area at risk of a public health emergency.

**(b) Procedure**

To be eligible to receive assistance under subsection (a), with respect to the program described in section 254l-1 of this title, an individual shall—

(1) comply with all rules and requirements described in such section (other than section 254l-1(f)(1)(B)(iv) of this title); and

(2) agree to serve for a time period equal to 2 years, or such longer period as the individual may agree to, in a State, local, or tribal health department, described in subsection (a).

**(c) Designations**

The demonstration project described in subsection (a), and any healthcare providers who are selected to participate in such project, shall not be considered by the Secretary in the designation of health professional shortage areas under section 254e of this title during fiscal years 2007 through 2010.

**(d) Report**

Not later than 3 years after December 19, 2006, the Secretary shall submit a report to the relevant committees of Congress that evaluates the participation of individuals in the demonstration project under subsection (a), the impact of such participation on State, local, and tribal health departments, and the benefit and feasibility of permanently allowing such placements in the Loan Repayment Program.

**(e) Authorization of appropriations**

There are authorized to be appropriated to carry out this section, such sums as may be necessary for each of fiscal years 2007 through 2010.

(July 1, 1944, ch. 373, title III, § 338M, as added Pub. L. 109-417, title II, § 203(a), Dec. 19, 2006, 120 Stat. 2848.)

**§ 254v. Clarification regarding service in schools and other community-based settings****(a) Schools and community-based settings**

An entity to which a participant in the Scholarship Program or the Loan Repayment Program (referred to in this section as a “participant”) is assigned under section 254f of this title may direct such participant to provide service as a behavioral or mental health professional at a school or other community-based setting located in a health professional shortage area.