

(July 1, 1944, ch. 373, title V, §595B, as added Pub. L. 106-310, div. B, title XXXII, §3208, Oct. 17, 2000, 114 Stat. 1199.)

PART J—SERVICES PROVIDED THROUGH  
RELIGIOUS ORGANIZATIONS

**Editorial Notes**

CODIFICATION

This part was, in the original, part G of title V of act July 1, 1944, and has been redesignated as part J for purposes of codification. Another part G of title V of act July 1, 1944, is classified to part G (§290hh et seq.) of this subchapter.

**§ 290kk. Applicability to designated programs**

**(a) Designated programs**

Subject to subsection (b), this part applies to discretionary and formula grant programs administered by the Substance Abuse and Mental Health Services Administration that make awards of financial assistance to public or private entities for the purpose of carrying out activities to prevent or treat substance abuse (in this part referred to as a “designated program”). Designated programs include the program under subpart II of part B of subchapter XVII (relating to formula grants to the States).

**(b) Limitation**

This part does not apply to any award of financial assistance under a designated program for a purpose other than the purpose specified in subsection (a).

**(c) Definitions**

For purposes of this part (and subject to subsection (b)):

- (1) The term “designated program” has the meaning given such term in subsection (a).
- (2) The term “financial assistance” means a grant, cooperative agreement, or contract.
- (3) The term “program beneficiary” means an individual who receives program services.
- (4) The term “program participant” means a public or private entity that has received financial assistance under a designated program.
- (5) The term “program services” means treatment for substance abuse, or preventive services regarding such abuse, provided pursuant to an award of financial assistance under a designated program.
- (6) The term “religious organization” means a nonprofit religious organization.

(July 1, 1944, ch. 373, title V, §581, as added Pub. L. 106-554, §1(a)(7) [title I, §144], Dec. 21, 2000, 114 Stat. 2763, 2763A-619.)

**Editorial Notes**

CODIFICATION

Another section 581 of act July 1, 1944, is classified to section 290hh of this title.

**§ 290kk-1. Religious organizations as program participants**

**(a) In general**

Notwithstanding any other provision of law, a religious organization, on the same basis as any other nonprofit private provider—

(1) may receive financial assistance under a designated program; and

(2) may be a provider of services under a designated program.

**(b) Religious organizations**

The purpose of this section is to allow religious organizations to be program participants on the same basis as any other nonprofit private provider without impairing the religious character of such organizations, and without diminishing the religious freedom of program beneficiaries.

**(c) Nondiscrimination against religious organizations**

**(1) Eligibility as program participants**

Religious organizations are eligible to be program participants on the same basis as any other nonprofit private organization as long as the programs are implemented consistent with the Establishment Clause and Free Exercise Clause of the First Amendment to the United States Constitution. Nothing in this chapter shall be construed to restrict the ability of the Federal Government, or a State or local government receiving funds under such programs, to apply to religious organizations the same eligibility conditions in designated programs as are applied to any other nonprofit private organization.

**(2) Nondiscrimination**

Neither the Federal Government nor a State or local government receiving funds under designated programs shall discriminate against an organization that is or applies to be a program participant on the basis that the organization has a religious character.

**(d) Religious character and freedom**

**(1) Religious organizations**

Except as provided in this section, any religious organization that is a program participant shall retain its independence from Federal, State, and local government, including such organization’s control over the definition, development, practice, and expression of its religious beliefs.

**(2) Additional safeguards**

Neither the Federal Government nor a State shall require a religious organization to—

- (A) alter its form of internal governance; or
- (B) remove religious art, icons, scripture, or other symbols,

in order to be a program participant.

**(e) Employment practices**

Nothing in this section shall be construed to modify or affect the provisions of any other Federal or State law or regulation that relates to discrimination in employment. A religious organization’s exemption provided under section 2000e-1 of this title regarding employment practices shall not be affected by its participation in, or receipt of funds from, a designated program.

**(f) Rights of program beneficiaries**

**(1) In general**

If an individual who is a program beneficiary or a prospective program beneficiary objects

to the religious character of a program participant, within a reasonable period of time after the date of such objection such program participant shall refer such individual to, and the appropriate Federal, State, or local government that administers a designated program or is a program participant shall provide to such individual (if otherwise eligible for such services), program services that—

(A) are from an alternative provider that is accessible to, and has the capacity to provide such services to, such individual; and

(B) have a value that is not less than the value of the services that the individual would have received from the program participant to which the individual had such objection.

Upon referring a program beneficiary to an alternative provider, the program participant shall notify the appropriate Federal, State, or local government agency that administers the program of such referral.

**(2) Notices**

Program participants, public agencies that refer individuals to designated programs, and the appropriate Federal, State, or local governments that administer designated programs or are program participants shall ensure that notice is provided to program beneficiaries or prospective program beneficiaries of their rights under this section.

**(3) Additional requirements**

A program participant making a referral pursuant to paragraph (1) shall—

(A) prior to making such referral, consider any list that the State or local government makes available of entities in the geographic area that provide program services; and

(B) ensure that the individual makes contact with the alternative provider to which the individual is referred.

**(4) Nondiscrimination**

A religious organization that is a program participant shall not in providing program services or engaging in outreach activities under designated programs discriminate against a program beneficiary or prospective program beneficiary on the basis of religion or religious belief.

**(g) Fiscal accountability**

**(1) In general**

Except as provided in paragraph (2), any religious organization that is a program participant shall be subject to the same regulations as other recipients of awards of Federal financial assistance to account, in accordance with generally accepted auditing principles, for the use of the funds provided under such awards.

**(2) Limited audit**

With respect to the award involved, a religious organization that is a program participant shall segregate Federal amounts provided under award into a separate account from non-Federal funds. Only the award funds shall be subject to audit by the government.

**(h) Compliance**

With respect to compliance with this section by an agency, a religious organization may ob-

tain judicial review of agency action in accordance with chapter 7 of title 5.

(July 1, 1944, ch. 373, title V, § 582, as added Pub. L. 106-554, § 1(a)(7) [title I, § 144], Dec. 21, 2000, 114 Stat. 2763, 2763A-620.)

**Editorial Notes**

**CODIFICATION**

Another section 582 of act July 1, 1944, is classified to section 290hh-1 of this title.

**§ 290kk-2. Limitations on use of funds for certain purposes**

No funds provided under a designated program shall be expended for sectarian worship, instruction, or proselytization.

(July 1, 1944, ch. 373, title V, § 583, as added Pub. L. 106-554, § 1(a)(7) [title I, § 144], Dec. 21, 2000, 114 Stat. 2763, 2763A-622.)

**§ 290kk-3. Educational requirements for personnel in drug treatment programs**

**(a) Findings**

The Congress finds that—

(1) establishing unduly rigid or uniform educational qualification for counselors and other personnel in drug treatment programs may undermine the effectiveness of such programs; and

(2) such educational requirements for counselors and other personnel may hinder or prevent the provision of needed drug treatment services.

**(b) Nondiscrimination**

In determining whether personnel of a program participant that has a record of successful drug treatment for the preceding three years have satisfied State or local requirements for education and training, a State or local government shall not discriminate against education and training provided to such personnel by a religious organization, so long as such education and training includes basic content substantially equivalent to the content provided by nonreligious organizations that the State or local government would credit for purposes of determining whether the relevant requirements have been satisfied.

(July 1, 1944, ch. 373, title V, § 584, as added Pub. L. 106-554, § 1(a)(7) [title I, § 144], Dec. 21, 2000, 114 Stat. 2763, 2763A-622.)

**PART K—MINORITY FELLOWSHIP PROGRAM**

**§ 290II. Fellowships**

**(a) In general**

The Secretary shall maintain a program, to be known as the Minority Fellowship Program, under which the Secretary shall award fellowships, which may include stipends, for the purposes of—

(1) increasing the knowledge of mental and substance use disorders practitioners on issues related to prevention, treatment, and recovery support for individuals who are from racial and ethnic minority populations and who have a mental or substance use disorder;