

(2) Drills

In conjunction with the core training programs referred to in paragraph (1), and in order to facilitate the integration of trained volunteers into the health care system at the local level, Corps members shall engage in periodic training exercises to be carried out at the local level. Such training exercises shall, as appropriate and applicable, incorporate the needs of at-risk individuals in the event of a public health emergency.

(e) Deployment

During a public health emergency, the Secretary shall have the authority to activate and deploy willing members of the Corps to areas of need, taking into consideration the public health and medical expertise required, with the concurrence of the State, local, or tribal officials from the area where the members reside.

(f) Expenses and transportation

While engaged in performing duties as a member of the Corps pursuant to an assignment by the Secretary (including periods of travel to facilitate such assignment), members of the Corps who are not otherwise employed by the Federal Government shall be allowed travel or transportation expenses, including per diem in lieu of subsistence.

(g) Identification

The Secretary, in cooperation and consultation with the States, shall develop a Medical Reserve Corps Identification Card that describes the licensure and certification information of Corps members, as well as other identifying information determined necessary by the Secretary.

(h) Intermittent disaster-response personnel**(1) In general**

For the purpose of assisting the Corps in carrying out duties under this section, during a public health emergency, the Secretary may appoint selected individuals to serve as intermittent personnel of such Corps in accordance with applicable civil service laws and regulations. In all other cases, members of the Corps are subject to the laws of the State in which the activities of the Corps are undertaken.

(2) Applicable protections

Subsections (c)(2), (d), and (e) of section 300hh-11 of this title shall apply to an individual appointed under paragraph (1) in the same manner as such subsections apply to an individual appointed under section 300hh-11(c) of this title.

(3) Limitation

State, local, and tribal officials shall have no authority to designate a member of the Corps as Federal intermittent disaster-response personnel, but may request the services of such members.

(i) Authorization of appropriations

There is authorized to be appropriated to carry out this section, \$11,200,000 for each of fiscal years 2019 through 2023.

(July 1, 1944, ch. 373, title XXVIII, §2813, as added Pub. L. 109-417, title III, §303(a), Dec. 19,

2006, 120 Stat. 2856; amended Pub. L. 113-5, title II, §203(b)(2), Mar. 13, 2013, 127 Stat. 175; Pub. L. 116-22, title III, §301(b), June 24, 2019, 133 Stat. 932.)

Editorial Notes

AMENDMENTS

2019—Subsec. (a). Pub. L. 116-22, §301(b)(1), substituted “The Secretary may appoint a Director to head the Corps and oversee the activities of the Corps chapters that exist at the State, local, Tribal, and territorial levels.” for “The Corps shall be headed by a Director who shall be appointed by the Secretary and shall oversee the activities of the Corps chapters that exist at the State, local, and tribal levels.”

Subsec. (i). Pub. L. 116-22, §301(b)(2), substituted “2019 through 2023” for “2014 through 2018”.

2013—Subsec. (d)(2). Pub. L. 113-5, §203(b)(2)(A), inserted at end “Such training exercises shall, as appropriate and applicable, incorporate the needs of at-risk individuals in the event of a public health emergency.”

Subsec. (i). Pub. L. 113-5, §203(b)(2)(B), substituted “\$11,200,000 for each of fiscal years 2014 through 2018” for “\$22,000,000 for fiscal year 2007, and such sums as may be necessary for each of fiscal years 2008 through 2011”.

§ 300hh-16. At-risk individuals

The Secretary, acting through such employee of the Department of Health and Human Services as determined by the Secretary and designated publicly (which may, at the discretion of the Secretary, involve the appointment or designation of an individual as the Director of At-Risk Individuals), shall—

(1) monitor emerging issues and concerns as they relate to medical and public health preparedness and response for at-risk individuals in the event of a public health emergency declared by the Secretary under section 247d of this title;

(2) oversee the implementation of the preparedness goals described in section 300hh-1(b) of this title with respect to the public health and medical needs of at-risk individuals in the event of a public health emergency, as described in section 300hh-1(b)(4) of this title;

(3) assist other Federal agencies responsible for planning for, responding to, and recovering from public health emergencies in addressing the needs of at-risk individuals;

(4) provide guidance to and ensure that recipients of State and local public health grants include preparedness and response strategies and capabilities that take into account the medical and public health needs of at-risk individuals in the event of a public health emergency, as described in section 247d-3a(b)(2)(A)(iii) of this title;

(5) ensure that the contents of the strategic national stockpile take into account at-risk populations as described in section 300hh-1(b)(4)(B) of this title;

(6) oversee curriculum development for the public health and medical response training program on medical management of casualties, as it concerns at-risk individuals as described in subparagraphs (A) through (C) of section 247d-6(a)(2) of this title;

(7) disseminate and, as appropriate, update novel and best practices of outreach to and care of at-risk individuals before, during, and

following public health emergencies in as timely a manner as is practicable, including from the time a public health threat is identified;

(8) ensure that public health and medical information distributed by the Department of Health and Human Services during a public health emergency is delivered in a manner that takes into account the range of communication needs of the intended recipients, including at-risk individuals; and

(9) facilitate coordination to ensure that, in implementing the situational awareness and biosurveillance network under section 247d-4 of this title, the Secretary considers incorporating data and information from Federal, State, local, Tribal, and territorial public health officials and entities relevant to detecting emerging public health threats that may affect at-risk individuals, such as pregnant and postpartum women and infants, including adverse health outcomes of such populations related to such emerging public health threats.

(July 1, 1944, ch. 373, title XXVIII, §2814, as added Pub. L. 109-417, title I, §102(d), Dec. 19, 2006, 120 Stat. 2834; amended Pub. L. 113-5, title I, §101(b), Mar. 13, 2013, 127 Stat. 163; Pub. L. 116-22, title III, §303(c), June 24, 2019, 133 Stat. 935.)

Editorial Notes

AMENDMENTS

2019—Par. (9). Pub. L. 116-22 added par. (9).

2013—Par. (1). Pub. L. 113-5, §101(b)(4), added par. (1). Former par. (1) redesignated (2).

Par. (2). Pub. L. 113-5, §101(b)(3), (5), redesignated par. (1) as (2) and amended it generally. Prior to amendment, par. (2) read as follows: “oversee the implementation of the National Preparedness goal of taking into account the public health and medical needs of at-risk individuals in the event of a public health emergency, as described in section 300hh-1(b)(4) of this title;”. Former par. (2) redesignated (3).

Par. (3). Pub. L. 113-5, §101(b)(3), redesignated par. (2) as (3). Former par. (3) redesignated (4).

Par. (4). Pub. L. 113-5, §101(b)(3), redesignated par. (3) as (4). Former par. (4) redesignated (5).

Pub. L. 113-5, §101(b)(2), substituted “300hh-1(b)(4)(B)” for “300hh-10(b)(3)(B)”.

Par. (5). Pub. L. 113-5, §101(b)(1), (3), redesignated par. (4) as (5) and struck out former par. (5) which read as follows: “oversee the progress of the Advisory Committee on At-Risk Individuals and Public Health Emergencies established under section 247d-6(b)(2) of this title and make recommendations with a focus on opportunities for action based on the work of the Committee;”.

Pars. (7), (8). Pub. L. 113-5, §101(b)(1), (6), added pars. (7) and (8) and struck out former pars. (7) and (8) which read as follows:

“(7) disseminate novel and best practices of outreach to and care of at-risk individuals before, during, and following public health emergencies; and

“(8) not later than one year after December 19, 2006, prepare and submit to Congress a report describing the progress made on implementing the duties described in this section.”

§ 300hh-17. Emergency response coordination of primary care providers

The Secretary, acting through Administrator¹ of the Health Resources and Services Adminis-

¹ So in original. Probably should be preceded by “the”.

tration, and in coordination with the Assistant Secretary for Preparedness and Response, shall

(1) provide guidance and technical assistance to health centers funded under section 254b of this title and to State and local health departments and emergency managers to integrate health centers into State and local emergency response plans and to better meet the primary care needs of populations served by health centers during public health emergencies; and

(2) encourage employees at health centers funded under section 254b of this title to participate in emergency medical response programs including the National Disaster Medical System authorized in section 300hh-11 of this title, the Volunteer Medical Reserve Corps authorized in section 300hh-15 of this title, and the Emergency System for Advance Registration of Health Professions Volunteers authorized in section 247d-7b of this title.

(July 1, 1944, ch. 373, title XXVIII, §2815, as added Pub. L. 110-355, §6(a), Oct. 8, 2008, 122 Stat. 3994.)

PART C—STRENGTHENING PUBLIC HEALTH SURVEILLANCE SYSTEMS

§ 300hh-31. Epidemiology-laboratory capacity grants

(a) In general

Subject to the availability of appropriations, the Secretary, acting through the Director of the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention, shall establish an Epidemiology and Laboratory Capacity Grant Program to award grants to State health departments as well as local health departments and tribal jurisdictions that meet such criteria as the Director determines appropriate. Academic centers that assist State and eligible local and tribal health departments may also be eligible for funding under this section as the Director determines appropriate. Grants shall be awarded under this section to assist public health agencies in improving surveillance for, and response to, infectious diseases and other conditions of public health importance by—

(1) strengthening epidemiologic capacity to identify and monitor the occurrence of infectious diseases, including mosquito and other vector-borne diseases, and other conditions of public health importance;

(2) enhancing laboratory practice as well as systems to report test orders and results electronically;

(3) improving information systems including developing and maintaining an information exchange using national guidelines and complying with capacities and functions determined by an advisory council established and appointed by the Director; and

(4) developing and implementing prevention and control strategies.

(b) Authorization of appropriations

There are authorized to be appropriated to carry out this section \$190,000,000 for each of fiscal years 2019 through 2023, of which—

(1) not less than \$95,000,000 shall be made available each such fiscal year for activities under paragraphs (1) and (4) of subsection (a);