

with the Government Accountability Office to provide periodic evaluations of the program. (Added Pub. L. 108-496, § 2, Dec. 23, 2004, 118 Stat. 4005.)

**Statutory Notes and Related Subsidiaries**

EFFECTIVE DATE

Section effective Dec. 23, 2004, and applicable to contracts that take effect with respect to the calendar year 2006, see section 7 of Pub. L. 108-496, set out as a note under section 8951 of this title.

**§ 8961. Jurisdiction of courts**

The district courts of the United States have original jurisdiction, concurrent with the United States Court of Federal Claims, of a civil action or claim against the United States under this chapter after such administrative remedies as required under section 8953(d) have been exhausted, but only to the extent judicial review is not precluded by any dispute resolution or other remedy under this chapter.

(Added Pub. L. 108-496, § 2, Dec. 23, 2004, 118 Stat. 4005.)

**Statutory Notes and Related Subsidiaries**

EFFECTIVE DATE

Section effective Dec. 23, 2004, and applicable to contracts that take effect with respect to the calendar year 2006, see section 7 of Pub. L. 108-496, set out as a note under section 8951 of this title.

**§ 8962. Administrative functions**

(a) The Office shall prescribe regulations to carry out this chapter. The regulations may exclude an employee on the basis of the nature and type of employment or conditions pertaining to it.

(b) The Office shall, as appropriate, provide for coordinated enrollment, promotion, and education efforts as appropriate in consultation with each qualified company. The information under this subsection shall include information relating to the dental benefits available under chapter 89, including the advantages and disadvantages of obtaining additional coverage under this chapter.

(Added Pub. L. 108-496, § 2, Dec. 23, 2004, 118 Stat. 4006.)

**Statutory Notes and Related Subsidiaries**

EFFECTIVE DATE

Section effective Dec. 23, 2004, and applicable to contracts that take effect with respect to the calendar year 2006, see section 7 of Pub. L. 108-496, set out as a note under section 8951 of this title.

**CHAPTER 89B—ENHANCED VISION BENEFITS**

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**§ 8981. Definitions**

In this chapter:

(1) The term “employee” means an employee defined under section 8901(1) and an employee of the District of Columbia courts.

(2) The terms “annuitant”, “member of family”, and “dependent” have the meanings as such terms are defined under paragraphs (3), (5), and (9), respectively, of section 8901.

(3) The term “eligible individual” refers to an individual described in paragraph (1), (2), or (8), without regard to whether the individual is enrolled in a health benefits plan under chapter 89.

(4) The term “Office” means the Office of Personnel Management.

(5) The term “qualified company” means a company (or consortium of companies or an employee organization defined under section 8901(8)) that offers indemnity, preferred provider organization, health maintenance organization, or discount vision programs and if required is licensed to issue applicable coverage in any number of States, taking any subsidiaries of such a company into account (and, in the case of a consortium, considering the member companies and any subsidiaries thereof, collectively).

(6) The term “employee organization” means an association or other organization of employees which is national in scope, or in which membership is open to all employees of a Government agency who are eligible to enroll in a health benefits plan under chapter 89.

(7) The term “State” includes the District of Columbia.

(8)(A) The term “covered TRICARE-eligible individual”—

(i) means an individual entitled to medical care under chapter 55 of title 10, pursuant to section 1076d, 1076e, 1079(a), 1086(c), or 1086(d) of such title, who the Secretary of Defense determines in accordance with an agreement entered into under subparagraph (B) should be an eligible individual for purposes of this chapter; and

(ii) does not include an individual covered under section 1110b of title 10.

(B) The Secretary of Defense shall enter into an agreement with the Director of the Office relating to classes of individuals described in subparagraph (A)(i) who should be eligible individuals for purposes of this chapter.

(Added Pub. L. 108-496, § 3, Dec. 23, 2004, 118 Stat. 4006; amended Pub. L. 109-356, title I, § 117(a)(2), Oct. 16, 2006, 120 Stat. 2027; Pub. L. 114-328, div. A, title VII, § 715(a)(2), Dec. 23, 2016, 130 Stat. 2221.)

**Editorial Notes**

AMENDMENTS

2016—Par. (3). Pub. L. 114-328, § 715(a)(2)(A), substituted “paragraph (1), (2), or (8)” for “paragraph (1) or (2)”.