

PART J—SERVICES PROVIDED THROUGH
RELIGIOUS ORGANIZATIONS

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) of this section, 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 of this chapter (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) of this section.

(c) Definitions

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

(1) The term “designated program” has the meaning given such term in subsection (a) of this section.

(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.)

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 pro-

gram 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 obtain 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.)

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.)

SUBCHAPTER IV—CONSTRUCTION AND MODERNIZATION OF HOSPITALS AND OTHER MEDICAL FACILITIES

§ 291. Congressional declaration of purpose

The purpose of this subchapter is—

(a) to assist the several States in the carrying out of their programs for the construction and modernization of such public or other non-profit community hospitals and other medical facilities as may be necessary, in conjunction with existing facilities, to furnish adequate hospital, clinic, or similar services to all their people;

(b) to stimulate the development of new or improved types of physical facilities for medical, diagnostic, preventive, treatment, or rehabilitative services; and

(c) to promote research, experiments, and demonstrations relating to the effective development and utilization of hospital, clinic, or similar services, facilities, and resources, and to promote the coordination of such research,