

(July 1, 1944, ch. 373, title II, §268, as added Pub. L. 108-20, §2, Apr. 30, 2003, 117 Stat. 645.)

**§ 239h. Relationship to other laws**

Except as explicitly provided herein, nothing in this part shall be construed to override or limit any rights an individual may have to seek compensation, benefits, or redress under any other provision of Federal or State law.

(July 1, 1944, ch. 373, title II, §269, as added Pub. L. 108-20, §2, Apr. 30, 2003, 117 Stat. 645.)

PART D—UNITED STATES PUBLIC HEALTH  
SCIENCES TRACK

**§ 239i. Establishment**

**(a) United States Public Health Services Track**

**(1) In general**

There is hereby authorized to be established a United States Public Health Sciences Track (referred to in this part as the “Track”), at sites to be selected by the Secretary, with authority to grant appropriate advanced degrees in a manner that uniquely emphasizes team-based service, public health, epidemiology, and emergency preparedness and response. It shall be so organized as to graduate not less than—

- (A) 150 medical students annually, 10 of whom shall be awarded studentships to the Uniformed Services University of Health Sciences;
- (B) 100 dental students annually;
- (C) 250 nursing students annually;
- (D) 100 public health students annually;
- (E) 100 behavioral and mental health professional students annually;
- (F) 100 physician assistant or nurse practitioner students annually; and
- (G) 50 pharmacy students annually.

**(2) Locations**

The Track shall be located at existing and accredited, affiliated health professions education training programs at academic health centers located in regions of the United States determined appropriate by the Surgeon General, in consultation with the National Health Care Workforce Commission established in section 294q of this title.

**(b) Number of graduates**

Except as provided in subsection (a), the number of persons to be graduated from the Track shall be prescribed by the Secretary. In so prescribing the number of persons to be graduated from the Track, the Secretary shall institute actions necessary to ensure the maximum number of first-year enrollments in the Track consistent with the academic capacity of the affiliated sites and the needs of the United States for medical, dental, and nursing personnel.

**(c) Development**

The development of the Track may be by such phases as the Secretary may prescribe subject to the requirements of subsection (a).

**(d) Integrated longitudinal plan**

The Surgeon General shall develop an integrated longitudinal plan for health professions continuing education throughout the continuum

of health-related education, training, and practice. Training under such plan shall emphasize patient-centered, interdisciplinary, and care coordination skills. Experience with deployment of emergency response teams shall be included during the clinical experiences.

**(e) Faculty development**

The Surgeon General shall develop faculty development programs and curricula in decentralized venues of health care, to balance urban, tertiary, and inpatient venues.

(July 1, 1944, ch. 373, title II, §271, as added Pub. L. 111-148, title V, §5315, Mar. 23, 2010, 124 Stat. 637.)

**§ 239j-1. Administration**

**(a) In general**

The business of the Track shall be conducted by the Surgeon General with funds appropriated for and provided by the Department of Health and Human Services. The National Health Care Workforce Commission shall assist the Surgeon General in an advisory capacity.

**(b) Faculty**

**(1) In general**

The Surgeon General, after considering the recommendations of the National Health Care Workforce Commission, shall obtain the services of such professors, instructors, and administrative and other employees as may be necessary to operate the Track, but utilize when possible, existing affiliated health professions training institutions. Members of the faculty and staff shall be employed under salary schedules and granted retirement and other related benefits prescribed by the Secretary so as to place the employees of the Track faculty on a comparable basis with the employees of fully accredited schools of the health professions within the United States.

**(2) Titles**

The Surgeon General may confer academic titles, as appropriate, upon the members of the faculty.

**(3) Nonapplication of provisions**

The limitations in section 5373 of title 5 shall not apply to the authority of the Surgeon General under paragraph (1) to prescribe salary schedules and other related benefits.

**(c) Agreements**

The Surgeon General may negotiate agreements with agencies of the Federal Government to utilize on a reimbursable basis appropriate existing Federal medical resources located in the United States (or locations selected in accordance with section 239i(a)(2) of this title). Under such agreements the facilities concerned will retain their identities and basic missions. The Surgeon General may negotiate affiliation agreements with accredited universities and health professions training institutions in the United States. Such agreements may include provisions for payments for educational services provided students participating in Department of Health and Human Services educational programs.