

13. Local [welfare] departments of social services.

(a) The State Department [of Public Welfare] shall create or continue in each county a local [welfare] department of social services to be known as such with the name of the county prefixed thereto. In each county such local [welfare] department shall have a local board and a local director appointed in accordance with the provisions of Section 14 and Section 14A of this Article.

In Baltimore City the department of [welfare] social services shall have a [welfare commission] *Commission of Social Services (herein referred to as "local commission")* appointed in accordance with the provisions of Section 48(d) of Article VII of the Charter of Baltimore City, 1964 Edition, and the local director of the local department [of welfare] in Baltimore City shall be appointed in accordance with the provisions of Section 2 of this article.

The local boards in the counties and the [welfare] local commission in Baltimore City shall have all the duties and functions provided in Section 14A of this article.

(b) The local [welfare] director in each county and in Baltimore City shall administer [the welfare] social service and public assistance activities within the counties and Baltimore City, respectively, in accordance with the provisions of Section 3 of this article. *Each local director has a general administrative responsibility to the State Department. Specifically, by way of example and not in limitation, each local director has the following basic responsibilities:*

(1) *Long-range and short-range planning for the functions and objectives of the respective local department;*

(2) *Exercise of full administrative responsibility for the operations of the respective local department;*

(3) *Appointment of all personnel of the respective local department in the county involved, from State merit system lists under the provisions of Article 64A of this Code; provided that the appointment of the personnel of the department of social services in Baltimore City shall be in accordance with the provisions of Section 2 of this article;*

(4) *Improvement of administrative and social-work practices and procedures;*

(5) *Submission of periodic reports and evaluations as required by the State Department; and*

(6) *Submission of an annual report to the local board of the respective local department in the counties and to the local commission of the local department in Baltimore City.*

*All local directors shall have such other responsibilities as may from time to time be required of them by the State Department or by other applicable laws, rules and regulations.*

(c) [(b)] Administrative costs—Source of payment.—Administrative costs of the local [welfare] departments for the purpose of this section shall be paid out of funds derived from local sources or out of allotments from State or federal funds, or any of them, as the State Department [of Public Welfare] may prescribe.