

related to mental retardation; and to promote public understanding. The provisions of this article shall be construed in a manner consistent with the policy of the State as herein defined.

3. Definitions

As used in this article, the following terms shall have the meanings indicated unless a contrary meaning is clearly intended from the context in which the term appears:

(a) *“Administration” means the Mental Retardation Administration of the State of Maryland.*

(b) *“Admission” means that process by which any person has been determined to be mentally retarded and is accepted to an in-residence service of any facility of OR Veterans’ Administration Hospital in this State intended to be used for the care of any person with mental retardation and shall include the physical act of entering the facility or Veterans’ Administration Hospital by any such person. The process by which any person enters any facility or Veterans’ Administration Hospital for purposes of receiving comprehensive evaluation shall not constitute an admission except for the purpose of reimbursement of cost of care and treatment.*

(c) *“Comprehensive evaluation” means a study including a sequence of observations and examinations of an individual leading to conclusions and recommendations formulated jointly by a team of persons with special training and experience in the diagnosis and management of the mentally retarded. The team shall include not less than one member professionally qualified in each of the fields of medicine, psychology, and social work, and may utilize such other specialists as the individual case may require. The team shall take into consideration the needs of the mentally retarded person, the family unit and the resources of the community before making recommendations.*

(d) *“Comprehensive evaluation center” means a facility so designated by the Administration providing comprehensive evaluation.*

(e) *“Cost of care” means and includes the cost of care, maintenance, treatment and support of each individual mentally retarded person in a public residential facility.*

(f) *“Department” means the Department of Health and Mental Hygiene of the State of Maryland.*

(g) *“Director” means the Director of the Mental Retardation Administration of the State of Maryland.*

(h) *“Facility” means any place providing a clinic, hospital, day, residential, or other programs, public or private, other than a Veterans’ Administration Hospital, which purports to or does provide treatment for mentally retarded persons.*

(i) *“Mental retardation” means significant subaverage general intellectual functioning which originates during the developmental period OR WHICH IS CAUSED BY TRAUMA RESULTING IN A MENTAL INCAPACITY IN WHICH THERE IS A DEMONSTRATED NEED FOR CARE AND TREATMENT TO THE SAME EXTENT AS THAT REQUIRED IF ORIGINATED DURING THE DEVELOPMENTAL PERIOD, and is associated with an*