

(D) WHEN THE SECRETARY HAS ESTABLISHED THE NEED FOR A CENTER, THE STATE SHALL PAY 100 PERCENT OF THE COST ASSOCIATED WITH START-UP OF THE CENTER. THESE COSTS SHALL BE DETERMINED BY AGREEMENT BETWEEN THE SECRETARY AND THE COUNTY PRIOR TO COMMENCEMENT OF ANY ACTIVITY RELATED TO PLANNING, ACQUISITION, CONSTRUCTION, OR RENOVATION OF THE CENTER FOR WHICH THE COUNTY DESIRES REIMBURSEMENT. THESE COSTS MAY INCLUDE CONSULTATION FEES, PERSONNEL, EQUIPMENT, INITIAL TRAINING COSTS FOR STAFF, AND ANY OTHER SERVICE RELATED TO THE START-UP PHASE OF THE CENTER.

†-709.

(a) The Secretary, with the assistance and advice of the Commissioner and a local correctional representative from each county, shall develop and adopt minimum State standards for centers. These standards shall include criteria and guidelines for:

- (1) The siting of the centers;
  - (2) The physical characteristics of the centers, including design and layout;
  - (3) Programs and staffing;
  - (4) Screening procedures with respect to placements in the centers;
  - (5) Accounting, reporting, and accountability;
- and
- (6) General program and management operations.

(b) These standards shall be deemed to be rules and regulations, and the Secretary shall comply with the Administrative Procedure Act, the State Documents Law, and other applicable laws in their development and adoption.-†-

709.

~~CENTERS SHALL MEET STANDARDS DEVELOPED BY THE MARYLAND COMMISSION ON CORRECTIONAL STANDARDS AND ADOPTED BY THE SECRETARY, FACILITY AUDITS TO INSURE COMPLIANCE SHALL BE ACCOMPLISHED BY THE COMMISSION.~~

710.

(a) If the Secretary determines and certifies that there is a present need for a center in a county or multicounty region, the county or counties in the region shall promptly inaugurate and pursue appropriate procedures to select a suitable site for the center. The Secretary shall cooperate with and assist the county or counties in the selection of a site which will be consistent with the standards adopted pursuant to § 709. Before selecting a site, the county governing body shall hold at least one