

Defined term: "Department" § 1-101

15-103. SAME -- MEDICAL ASSISTANCE PROGRAM.

(A) IN GENERAL.

(1) THE SECRETARY SHALL ADMINISTER THE MARYLAND MEDICAL ASSISTANCE PROGRAM.

(2) THE PROGRAM:

(I) SHALL PROVIDE COMPREHENSIVE MEDICAL AND OTHER HEALTH CARE FOR INDIGENT INDIVIDUALS OR MEDICALLY INDIGENT INDIVIDUALS OR BOTH; AND

(II) MAY INCLUDE BEDSIDE NURSING CARE FOR ELIGIBLE PROGRAM RECIPIENTS.

(B) CONTRACTS FOR CARE.

(1) (I) IN THIS SUBSECTION THE FOLLOWING WORDS HAVE THE MEANINGS INDICATED.

(II) "CERTIFIED NURSE PRACTITIONER" MEANS A REGISTERED NURSE WHO IS LICENSED IN THIS STATE, HAS COMPLETED A NURSE PRACTITIONER PROGRAM APPROVED BY THE STATE BOARD OF EXAMINERS OF NURSES, AND HAS PASSED AN EXAMINATION APPROVED BY THAT BOARD.

(III) "NURSE MIDWIFE" MEANS A REGISTERED NURSE WHO IS LICENSED IN THIS STATE AND HAS BEEN CERTIFIED BY THE AMERICAN COLLEGE OF NURSE-MIDWIVES AS A NURSE MIDWIFE.

(IV) "OPTOMETRIST" HAS THE MEANING STATED IN § 10-101 OF THE HEALTH OCCUPATIONS ARTICLE.

(2) THE SECRETARY MAY CONTRACT FOR THE PROVISION OF CARE UNDER THE PROGRAM TO ELIGIBLE PROGRAM RECIPIENTS.

(3) THE SECRETARY MAY CONTRACT WITH INSURANCE COMPANIES OR NONPROFIT HEALTH SERVICE PLANS OR WITH INDIVIDUALS, ASSOCIATIONS, PARTNERSHIPS, INCORPORATED OR UNINCORPORATED GROUPS OF PHYSICIANS, CHIROPRACTORS, DENTISTS, PODIATRISTS, OPTOMETRISTS, PHARMACISTS, HOSPITALS, NURSING HOMES, NURSES, INCLUDING NURSE MIDWIVES AND CERTIFIED NURSE PRACTITIONERS, OPTICIANS, AND OTHER HEALTH PRACTITIONERS WHO ARE LICENSED OR CERTIFIED IN THIS STATE AND PERFORM SERVICES ON THE PRESCRIPTION OR REFERRAL OF A PHYSICIAN.

(4) FOR THE PURPOSES OF THIS SECTION, THE NURSE MIDWIFE NEED NOT BE UNDER THE SUPERVISION OF A PHYSICIAN.