

(k) The Commissioner shall:

(1) Adopt regulations concerning the application process that carriers shall use to process applications for participation in a carrier's provider panel; and

(2) In consultation with the Secretary of Health and Mental Hygiene, adopt strategies that would assist carriers in maximizing the opportunity of a broad range of minority providers to participate in the delivery of health care services.

490FF.

A CARRIER AS DEFINED IN § 490CC OF THIS ARTICLE THAT OPERATES A MANAGED CARE ORGANIZATION UNDER TITLE 15, SUBTITLE 1 OF THE HEALTH - GENERAL ARTICLE MAY NOT DENY, LIMIT, OR OTHERWISE IMPAIR THE PARTICIPATION OF A PROVIDER UNDER CONTRACT WITH THE CARRIER FOR CHOOSING NOT TO PARTICIPATE OR LIMITING PARTICIPATION IN THE CARRIER'S MANAGED CARE ORGANIZATION IF THE CARRIER IS IN VIOLATION OF § 15-102.4 OF THE HEALTH - GENERAL ARTICLE.

Article - Health - General

15-101.

(a) In this title the following words have the meanings indicated.

(B) "ENROLLEE" MEANS A PROGRAM RECIPIENT WHO IS ENROLLED IN A MANAGED CARE ORGANIZATION.

(C) "EXCEPTIONAL NEEDS CARE COORDINATOR" MEANS A PERSON EMPLOYED BY THE MANAGED CARE ORGANIZATION TO ASSIST INDIVIDUALS IN SPECIAL NEEDS POPULATIONS TO ACCESS, COORDINATE, AND OBTAIN SERVICES THAT MEET THE INDIVIDUALS' NEEDS.

~~(b)~~ ~~(D)~~ (C) "Facility" means a hospital or nursing facility including an intermediate care facility, skilled nursing facility, comprehensive care facility, or extended care facility.

~~(E)~~ (D) (1) "HISTORIC PROVIDER" MEANS A HEALTH CARE PROVIDER, AS DEFINED IN § 19-1501 OF THIS ARTICLE, WHOSE PATIENT PROFILE HAS INCLUDED A SUBSTANTIAL NUMBER, AS IDENTIFIED BY THE DEPARTMENT IN REGULATION, OF PROGRAM RECIPIENTS FOR AT LEAST 5 YEARS.

(2) "HISTORIC PROVIDER" INCLUDES, TO THE EXTENT THAT THE PROVIDER'S PATIENT PROFILE MEETS THE REQUIREMENTS OF PARAGRAPH (1) OF THIS SUBSECTION, ACADEMIC HEALTH CENTERS, OUTPATIENT PROGRAMS OWNED OR CONTROLLED BY HOSPITALS, COMMUNITY HEALTH CENTERS, SCHOOL-BASED HEALTH CLINICS, LOCAL HEALTH DEPARTMENTS, AND PHARMACIES, WHO, ON OR BEFORE JUNE 30, 1995, HAD A DEMONSTRATED HISTORY OF PROVIDING SERVICES TO PROGRAM RECIPIENTS, AS DEFINED BY THE DEPARTMENT IN REGULATIONS.

(2) "HISTORIC PROVIDER", TO THE EXTENT THE PROVIDER MEETS THE REQUIREMENTS IN PARAGRAPH (1) OF THIS SUBSECTION, SHALL INCLUDE:

(1) A FEDERAL OR STATE QUALIFIED COMMUNITY HEALTH CENTER;