

(B) THE PURPOSE OF THE PROGRAM IS TO INCREASE ACCESS TO ORAL HEALTH SERVICES FOR UNDERSERVED MARYLAND MEDICAL ASSISTANCE PROGRAM RECIPIENTS BY INCREASING THE NUMBER OF DENTISTS WHO TREAT THAT POPULATION.

18-2403.

(A) THE ADMINISTRATION SHALL ADMINISTER THE PROGRAM WITH THE ASSISTANCE OF THE DEPARTMENT OF HEALTH AND MENTAL HYGIENE, OFFICE OF ORAL HEALTH.

(B) THE DEPARTMENT OF HEALTH AND MENTAL HYGIENE, OFFICE OF ORAL HEALTH SHALL:

(1) RECRUIT DENTISTS TO PARTICIPATE IN THE PROGRAM;

(2) DETERMINE IF THE PRIVATE PRACTICE OR CLINICAL SETTING IN WHICH AN APPLICANT WILL PRACTICE IS LOCATED NEAR OR READILY ACCESSIBLE TO UNDERSERVED MARYLAND MEDICAL ASSISTANCE PROGRAM RECIPIENTS AND IF THE APPLICANT QUALIFIES FOR THE PROGRAM;

(3) DETERMINE IF EACH PARTICIPANT MEETS THE PROGRAM REQUIREMENTS AND SERVES THE REQUIRED NUMBER OF MARYLAND MEDICAL ASSISTANCE PROGRAM RECIPIENTS; AND

(4) NOTIFY THE ADMINISTRATION OF ANY FINDINGS MADE IN ACCORDANCE WITH THE PROVISIONS OF THIS SUBSECTION.

18-2404.

EACH APPLICANT FOR A HIGHER EDUCATION LOAN ASSISTANCE GRANT UNDER THIS SUBTITLE SHALL:

(1) BE LICENSED TO PRACTICE IN MARYLAND BY THE STATE BOARD OF DENTAL EXAMINERS;

(2) DEMONSTRATE FINANCIAL NEED;

(3) BE EMPLOYED FULL TIME AS A DENTIST;

(4) AGREE THAT AT LEAST 30% OF THE PATIENTS TREATED BY THE DENTIST EACH YEAR FOR A 3-YEAR PERIOD IN A PRIVATE PRACTICE OR CLINICAL SETTING WILL BE MARYLAND MEDICAL ASSISTANCE PROGRAM RECIPIENTS; AND

(5) MEET ANY OTHER CRITERIA ESTABLISHED BY THE ADMINISTRATION.

18-2405.

(A) THE ADMINISTRATION, ON NOTIFICATION BY THE DEPARTMENT OF HEALTH AND MENTAL HYGIENE, MAY AWARD HIGHER EDUCATION LOAN ASSISTANCE GRANTS TO UP TO 5 PARTICIPANTS EACH YEAR, WITH A MAXIMUM OF 15 PARTICIPANTS IN THE PROGRAM.