

(c) If the requirements of this section are met, the [Secretary] COMMISSIONER shall renew a certificate.

[(d) The Secretary may delegate to the Commissioner the authority to renew a certificate to any health insurer or nonprofit health service plan regulated under the Insurance Article or health maintenance organization issued a certificate of authority in accordance with Subtitle 7 of this title that meets the requirements of this subtitle and all applicable regulations of the Secretary.]

15-10B-11.

(a) (1) The [Secretary] COMMISSIONER shall deny a certificate to any applicant if, upon review of the application, the [Secretary] COMMISSIONER finds that the applicant proposing to conduct utilization review does not:

(i) Have available the services of sufficient numbers of registered nurses, medical records technicians or similarly qualified persons supported and supervised by appropriate physicians to carry out its utilization review activities; and

(ii) Meet any applicable regulations the [Secretary] COMMISSIONER adopts under this subtitle relating to the qualifications of private review agents or the performance of utilization review.

(2) The [Secretary] COMMISSIONER shall deny a certificate to any applicant that does not provide assurances satisfactory to the [Secretary] COMMISSIONER that:

(i) The procedures and policies of the private review agent will protect the confidentiality of medical records in accordance with applicable State and federal laws; and

(ii) The private review agent will be accessible to patients and providers 5 working days a week during normal business hours in this State.

(b) The [Secretary] COMMISSIONER may revoke a certificate if the holder does not comply with performance assurances under this section, violates any provision of this subtitle, or violates any regulation adopted under any provision of this subtitle.

(c) (1) Before denying or revoking a certificate under this section, the [Secretary] COMMISSIONER shall provide the applicant or certificate holder with reasonable time to supply additional information demonstrating compliance with the requirements of this subtitle and the opportunity to request a hearing.

(2) If an applicant or certificate holder requests a hearing, the [Secretary] COMMISSIONER shall send a hearing notice by certified mail, return receipt requested, at least 30 days before the hearing.

(3) The [Secretary] COMMISSIONER shall hold the hearing in accordance with Title 10, Subtitle 2 of the State Government Article.