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# 42 U.S. Code § 256g

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## Grants for innovative programs

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### **(a) Grant program authorized**

The Secretary, acting through the Administrator of the Health Resources and Services Administration, is authorized to award grants to States for the purpose of helping States develop and implement innovative programs to address the dental workforce needs of designated dental health professional shortage areas in a manner that is appropriate to the States' individual needs.

### **(b) State activities**

A State receiving a grant under subsection (a) may use funds received under the grant for—

- (1) loan forgiveness and repayment programs for dentists who—
  - (A) agree to practice in designated dental health professional shortage areas;
  - (B) are dental school graduates who agree to serve as public health dentists for the Federal, State, or local government; and
  - (C) agree to—
    - (i) provide services to patients regardless of such patients' ability to pay; and
    - (ii) use a sliding payment scale for patients who are unable to pay the total cost of services;

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