
42 U.S. Code § 1395i-3a

Protecting residents of long-term care facilities

(1) National Training Institute for surveyors

(A) In general

The Secretary of Health and Human Services shall enter into a contract with an entity for the purpose of establishing and operating a National Training Institute for Federal and State surveyors. Such Institute shall provide and improve the training of surveyors with respect to investigating allegations of abuse, neglect, and misappropriation of property in programs and long-term care facilities that receive payments under title XVIII or XIX of the Social Security Act [42 U.S.C. 1395 et seq., 1396 et seq.].

(B) Activities carried out by the Institute

The contract entered into under subparagraph (A) shall require the Institute established and operated under such contract to carry out the following activities:

- (i) Assess the extent to which State agencies use specialized surveyors for the investigation of reported allegations of abuse, neglect, and misappropriation of property in such programs and long-term care facilities.
- (ii) Evaluate how the competencies of surveyors may be improved to more effectively investigate reported allegations of such abuse, neglect, and misappropriation of property, and provide feedback to Federal and State agencies on the evaluations conducted.
- (iii) Provide a national program of training, tools, and technical assistance to Federal and State surveyors on investigating reports of such abuse, neglect, and misappropriation of property.
- (iv) Develop and disseminate information on best practices for the investigation of such abuse, neglect, and misappropriation of property.
- (v) Assess the performance of State complaint intake systems, in order to ensure that the intake of complaints occurs 24 hours per day, 7 days a week (including holidays).
- (vi) To the extent approved by the Secretary of Health and Human Services, provide a national 24 hours per day, 7 days a week (including holidays), back-up system to State complaint intake systems in order to ensure optimum national responsiveness to complaints of such abuse, neglect, and misappropriation of property.
- (vii) Analyze and report annually on the following:
 - (I) The total number and sources of complaints of such abuse, neglect, and misappropriation of property.
 - (II) The extent to which such complaints are referred to law enforcement agencies.
 - (III) General results of Federal and State investigations of such complaints.
- (viii) Conduct a national study of the cost to State agencies of conducting complaint investigations of skilled nursing facilities and nursing facilities under sections 1819 and 1919, respectively, of the Social Security Act (42 U.S.C. 1395i-3; 1396r), and making recommendations to the Secretary of Health and

Human Services with respect to options to increase the efficiency and cost-effectiveness of such investigations.

(C) Authorization

There are authorized to be appropriated to carry out this paragraph, for the period of fiscal years 2011 through 2014, \$12,000,000.

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