

§ 2550.90

C programs training and technical assistance funds to perform these functions. The Corporation will issue notices of availability of funds with respect to training and technical assistance.

(h) *Recruitment and placement.* The State entity, as well as the Corporation, will develop mechanisms for recruitment and placement of people interested in participating in national service programs.

(i) *Benefits.* The State entity shall assist in the provision of health and child care benefits to subtitle C program participants, as will be specified in the regulations implementing the subtitle C programs.

(j) *Activity ineligible for assistance.* A State Commission or AAE may not directly operate or run any national service program receiving financial assistance, in any form, from the Corporation.

(k) *Make recommendations to the Corporation* with respect to priorities within the State for programs receiving assistance under DVSA.

(l) *Coordination.* (1) *Coordination with other State agencies.* A State entity must coordinate its activities with the activities of other State agencies that administer Federal financial assistance programs under the Community Services Block Grant Act (42 U.S.C. 9901 et seq.) or other appropriate Federal financial assistance programs.

(2) *Coordination with volunteer service programs.* In general, the State entity shall coordinate its functions (including recruitment, public awareness, and training activities) with such functions of any division of ACTION, or the Corporation, that carries out volunteer service programs in the State. Specifically, the State entity may enter into an agreement with a division of ACTION or the Corporation to carry out its functions jointly, to perform its functions itself, or to assign responsibility for its functions to ACTION or the Corporation.

(3) In carrying out the activities under paragraphs (l) (1) and (2) of this section, the parties involved must exchange information about the programs carried out in the State by the State entity, a division of ACTION or the Corporation, as well as information

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about opportunities to coordinate activities.

**§ 2550.90 Are there any restrictions on the activities of the members of State Commissions or Alternative Administrative Entities?**

To avoid a conflict of interest (or the appearance of a conflict of interest) regarding the provision of assistance or approved national service positions, members of a State Commission or AAE must adhere to the following provisions:

(a) *General restriction.* Members of State Commissions and AAEs are restricted in several ways from the grant approval and administration process for any grant application submitted by an organization for which they are currently, or were within one year of the submission of the application, officers, directors, trustees, full-time volunteers or employees. The restrictions for such individuals are as follows:

(1) They cannot assist the applying organization in preparing the grant application;

(2) They must recuse themselves from the discussions or decisions regarding the grant application and any other grant applications submitted to the Commission or AAE under the same program (e.g., subtitle B programs or subtitle C programs); and

(3) They cannot participate in the oversight, evaluation, continuation, suspension or termination of the grant award.

(b) *Exception to achieve a quorum.* If this general restriction creates a situation in which a Commission or AAE does not have enough eligible voting members to achieve a quorum, the Commission or AAE may involve some normally-excluded members subject to the following conditions:

(1) A Commission or AAE may randomly and in a non-discretionary manner select the number of refused members necessary to achieve a quorum;

(2) Notwithstanding paragraph (b)(1) of this section, no Commission or AAE member may, under any circumstances, participate in any discussions or decisions regarding a grant application submitted by an organization

with which he or she is or was affiliated according to the definitions in paragraph (a) of this section; and

(3) If recused members are included so as to achieve quorum, the State Commission or AAE must document the event and report to the Corporation within 30 days of the vote.

(c) *Rule of construction.* Paragraph (a) of this section shall not be construed to limit the authority of any voting member of the State Commission or AAE to participate in—

(1) Discussion of, and hearings and forums on, the general duties, policies and operations of the Commission or AAE, or general program administration; or

(2) Similar general matters relating to the Commission or AAE.

**§2550.100 Do State entities or their members incur any risk of liability?**

(a) *State liability.* Except as provided in paragraph (b) of this section, a State must agree to assume liability with respect to any claim arising out of or resulting from any act or omission by a member of the State Commission or AAE, within the scope of the service of that member.

(b) *Individual liability.* A member of the State Commission or AAE shall have no personal liability with respect to any claim arising out of or resulting from any act or omission by that member, within the scope of the service of that member. This does not, however, limit personal liability for criminal acts or omissions, willful or malicious misconduct, acts or omissions for private gain, or any other act or omission outside the scope of the service of that member. Similarly, this part does not limit or alter in any way any other immunities that are available under applicable law for State officials and employees not described in this section; nor does this part affect any other right or remedy against the State or any person other than a member of a State Commission or AAE.

**§2550.110 What money will be available from the Corporation to assist in establishing and operating a State Commission, Alternative Administrative Entity, or Transitional Entity?**

(a) *Range of grants.* The Corporation may make administrative grants to States of between \$125,000 and \$750,000 (inclusive) for the purpose of establishing or operating a State Commission or AAE; these grants will be available to States which have Corporation-approved Transitional Entities only if those States commit to establishing a Corporation-approved State Commission or AAE prior to the expiration of the transitional period.

(b) *Limitation on Federal share.* Notwithstanding the amounts specified in this section, the amount of a grant that may be provided to a State under this subsection, together with other Federal funds available to establish or operate the State Commission or AAE, may not exceed 85 percent of the total cost to establish or operate the State Commission or AAE for the first year for which the State Commission or AAE receives an administrative grant under this section.<sup>1</sup> In subsequent years, the Corporation will establish larger matching requirements for States so that by the fifth and subsequent years of assistance, the Federal share does not exceed 50 percent.

**PART 2551—SENIOR COMPANION PROGRAM**

**Subpart A—General**

Sec.

2551.11 What is the Senior Companion Program?

2551.12 Definitions.

<sup>1</sup>See OMB Circulars A-102 and A-122. Copies of the circulars may be obtained from the Office of Administration, EOP Publications, 725 17th Street, NW., Room 2200, New EOB, Washington, DC 20503.