

information on the characteristics and capacities of the Nation's health personnel production systems; (3) proposes new or modifications to existing Departmental policies and programs related to health personnel development and utilization; (4) develops, tests and demonstrates new and improved approaches to the development and utilization of health personnel within various patterns of health care delivery and financing systems; (5) provides financial support to institutions and individuals for health professions education programs; (6) administers Federal programs for targeted health personnel development and utilization; (7) provides leadership for promoting equity and diversity in access to health services and health careers for under-represented minority groups; (8) provides technical assistance, consultation and special financial assistance to national, State, and local agencies, organizations, and institutions for the development, production, utilization, and evaluation of health personnel; (9) provides grantees/States with accurate and timely interpretations of the Bureau's program expectations, requirements, guidances, and Federal legislation; (10) coordinates with the programs of other agencies within the Department, and in other Federal Departments and agencies concerned with health personnel development and health care services; (11) provides liaison and coordinates with non-Federal organizations and agencies concerned with health personnel development and utilization; (12) serves as a focus for technical assistance activities in the internal aspects of health personnel development; (13) administers the National Practitioner Data Bank Program; (14) administers the Healthcare Integrity and Protection Data Bank Program; (15) administers the Ricky Ray Hemophilia Relief Fund Program; (16) provides direction and leadership to the Children's Hospitals Graduate Medical Education (CHGME) Payment Program; (17) administers the National Health Service Corps Program which assures accessibility of health care in underserved areas; (18) plans the activities of the National Health Services Corps Advisory Council; (19) administers the Public Health Service Scholarship Training Program and the National Health Service Corps Scholarship Loan Repayment Program; (20) administers the designation of health professional shortage areas and medically-underserved populations; (21) administers the Community Scholarship Program; (22) administers

the State Loan Repayment Program; (23) administers the Nursing Education Loan Repayment program; and (24) provides direction and leadership for the Federal Credentialing Program.

22. In the Bureau of Health Professions abolish the Office of Peer Review (RPG).

23. In the Bureau of Health Professions revise the functions of the Office of Program Support (RP1) as follows:

*Office of Program Support (RP1)*

Plans, directs, coordinates and evaluates Bureau-wide administrative management activities. Maintains close liaison with officials of the Bureau, Agency, the Office of Public Health and Science, and the Office of the Secretary on management and support activities. Specifically: (1) Serves as the Bureau's principal source for management and administrative advice and assistance; (2) provides advice, guidance and coordinates personnel activities for the Bureau; (3) directs and coordinates the allocation of personnel resources; (4) provides organization and management analysis, develops policies and procedures for internal operation and interprets and implements the Bureau's management policies, procedures and systems; (5) develops and coordinates Bureau program and administrative delegations of authority activities; (6) provides guidance to the Bureau on financial management activities; (7) provides Bureau-wide support services such as supply management, equipment utilization, printing, property management, space management, records management and management reports; (8) manages the Bureau's performance management systems; and (9) develops general guidance and criteria related to the Bureau's grant programs.

24. In the Bureau of Health Professions revise the functions of the Division of National Health Service Corps (RPH) as follows:

*Division of National Health Service Corps (RPH)*

Provides (1) strategic planning and overall program policy guidance and oversight to the National Health Service Corps (NHSC); (2) initiates national program and policy changes, including regulatory and statutory amendments to ensure NHSC consistency with evolving national health care policy; (3) supports the NHSC National Advisory Council (NAC); (4) provides national NHSC leadership, integration and coordination with HRSA and other Departmental programs serving or impacting the Nation's underserved communities and

populations; (5) coordinates NHSC policy on primary and other health care manpower issues, and works with a wide variety of national, regional, State and local constituencies in ensuring their effective implementation; (6) directs and administers the Public Health Service Scholarship Training Program, the NHSC Loan Repayment Program and the NHSC Scholarship Program; (7) develops and implements program plans and policies and operating and evaluation plans and procedures; (8) monitors obligatory service requirements and conditions of deferment for compliance; (9) provides guidance and technical assistance for educational institutions on the NHSC scholarship program; (10) maintains liaison with, and provides assistance to, program-related public and private professional organizations and institutions; (11) coordinates financial aspects of programs with educational institutions; (12) develops program data needs, formats and reporting requirements including collection, collation, analysis and dissemination of data; (13) participates in the development of forward plans, and budgets including recruitment, deferment and service monitoring systems; and (14) develops Program Application and Guidance documents.

25. Revise the functional statement for the Bureau of Primary Health Care (RC) as follows:

*Bureau of Primary Health Care (RC)*

Provides national leadership in developing, coordinating, evaluating, and assuring access to comprehensive preventive and primary health care services and improving the health status of the Nations' underserved and vulnerable populations. Specifically, the Bureau: (1) Assesses the Nation's health care needs of underserved populations; (2) assists communities in providing quality health care services, demonstrating new and improved approaches for providing access to healthcare; (3) administers the Consolidated Health Center Program; (4) develops comprehensive integrated systems of care for underserved communities and populations; (5) decreases health disparities through the targeting of resources to those populations at increased risk of negative health outcomes; (6) promotes the integration of primary care services with mental health and dental health services; (7) develops innovative strategies for serving special populations and difficult to serve sub-populations; (8) provides leadership for promoting equity, diversity, and cultural competency in access to health