

HEALTH & SAFETY CODE

CHAPTER 105. HEALTH PROFESSIONS RESOURCE CENTER

Sec. 105.001. DEFINITIONS. In this chapter:

(1) "Health profession" means any health or allied health profession that is licensed, certified, or registered by a state board, agency, or association.

(2) "Council" means the statewide health coordinating council.

Added by Acts 1991, 72nd Leg., ch. 14, Sec. 40, eff. Sept. 1, 1991. Amended by Acts 1997, 75th Leg., ch. 1386, Sec. 3, eff. Sept. 1, 1997.

Sec. 105.002. ESTABLISHMENT OF CENTER. (a) In conjunction with the Texas Higher Education Coordinating Board and in such a way as to avoid duplication of effort, the council shall establish a comprehensive health professions resource center for the collection and analysis of educational and employment trends for health professions in this state.

(b) In conjunction with the committee formed under Section 104.0155, to avoid duplication of effort, and to the extent funding is available through fees collected under Section 301.155(c), Occupations Code, the council shall establish a nursing resource section within the center for the collection and analysis of educational and employment trends for nurses in this state.

(c) If the nursing resource section established under Subsection (b) is funded from surcharges collected under Section 301.155(c), Occupations Code, the council shall provide the Board of Nurse Examiners with an annual accounting of the money received from the board. The council may expend a reasonable amount of the money to pay administrative costs of maintaining the nursing resource section.

Added by Acts 1991, 72nd Leg., ch. 14, Sec. 40, eff. Sept. 1, 1991. Amended by Acts 1997, 75th Leg., ch. 1386, Sec. 4, eff. Sept. 1, 1997; Acts 2003, 78th Leg., ch. 728, Sec. 9, eff. June 20, 2003; Acts 2005, 79th Leg., ch. 113, Sec. 1, eff. May 20, 2005.

Sec. 105.003. COLLECTION OF DATA. (a) The council shall place a high priority on collecting and disseminating data on health professions demonstrating an acute shortage in this state, including:

(1) data concerning nursing personnel; and

(2) data concerning the health professions in which shortages occur in rural areas.

(b) To the extent possible, the council may collect the data from existing sources that the council determines are credible. The council may enter agreements with those sources that establish guidelines concerning the identification, acquisition, transfer, and confidentiality of the data.

(c) At a minimum, the data collected by the council must include the following in regard to health professionals:

(1) their number and geographic distribution;

(2) licensure or certification status;

(3) specialty areas, if applicable; and

(4) trends or changes in license holders according to number or geographic distribution.

(d) To the extent feasible, the council shall use a researcher with a doctorate in nursing to collect, analyze, and disseminate nursing data that may be used to predict supply and demand for nursing personnel in this state using appropriate federal or state supply-and-demand models. The nursing data must at least:

(1) include demographics, areas of practice, supply, demand, and migration; and

(2) be analyzed to identify trends relating to numbers and geographical distribution, practice setting, and area of practice and, to the extent possible, compare those trends with corresponding national trends.

(e) Data received under this section by the nursing resource section established under Section 105.002 that contains information identifying specific patients or health care facilities is confidential, is not subject to disclosure under Chapter 552, Government Code, and may not be released unless all identifying information is removed.

Added by Acts 1991, 72nd Leg., ch. 14, Sec. 40, eff. Sept. 1, 1991. Amended by Acts 1997, 75th Leg., ch. 1386, Sec. 5, eff. Sept. 1, 1997; Acts 2003, 78th Leg., ch. 728, Sec. 10, eff. June 20, 2003; Acts 2005, 79th Leg., ch. 113, Sec. 2, eff. May 20, 2005.

Sec. 105.004. REPORTS. (a) The council may use the data collected and analyzed under this chapter to publish reports regarding:

- (1) the educational and employment trends for health professions;
- (2) the supply and demand of health professions; and
- (3) other issues, as necessary, concerning health professions in this state.

(b) The council shall publish reports regarding the data collected and analyzed under this chapter related to:

- (1) the educational and employment trends of nursing professionals;
- (2) the supply and demand of nursing professionals; and

(3) other issues, as determined necessary by the council, concerning nursing professionals in this state.

Added by Acts 1991, 72nd Leg., ch. 14, Sec. 40, eff. Sept. 1, 1991. Amended by Acts 1997, 75th Leg., ch. 1386, Sec. 6, eff. Sept. 1, 1997; Acts 2003, 78th Leg., ch. 728, Sec. 11, eff. June 20, 2003.

Sec. 105.005. RULES. The board may adopt rules to govern the reporting and collection of data.

Added by Acts 1991, 72nd Leg., ch. 14, Sec. 40, eff. Sept. 1, 1991.

Sec. 105.006. ASSISTANCE OF OTHER STATE AGENCIES. The Texas Higher Education Coordinating Board or the department may require the assistance of other state agencies or institutions of higher education for the development of, or the collection of data for, any report.

Added by Acts 1991, 72nd Leg., ch. 14, Sec. 40, eff. Sept. 1, 1991. Amended by Acts 2003, 78th Leg., ch. 1276, Sec. 10.001(a), eff. Sept. 1, 2003.

Sec. 105.007. CLEARINGHOUSE. (a) As part of the comprehensive health professions resource center, the council shall develop and establish a clearinghouse for health professionals seeking collaborative practice.

(b) The council may:

(1) set and collect a reasonable fee to offset the cost of complying with this section;

(2) solicit, receive, and spend grants, gifts, and donations from public and private sources to comply with this section; and

(3) contract with public or private entities in the performance of its responsibilities under this section.

Added by Acts 1995, 74th Leg., ch. 965, Sec. 1, eff. June 16, 1995. Amended by Acts 1997, 75th Leg., ch. 1386, Sec. 7, eff. Sept. 1, 1997.

Sec. 105.008. GOALS AND STRATEGIES CONCERNING THE NUMBER OF GRADUATES FROM PROFESSIONAL NURSING PROGRAMS.

Text of section effective until June 1, 2007

(a) In this section, "professional nursing program" has the meaning assigned by Section 61.9621, Education Code.

(b) The council, in consultation with the Texas Higher Education Coordinating Board, shall perform an analysis to determine, for each academic year, a target number of graduates from the state's professional nursing programs, goals for increasing the number of graduates from those programs, and the levels of public and private funding needed to achieve the target number and goals. The analysis must include assessments and projections concerning:

(1) the number of registered nurses working in this state and the number of registered nurses needed in this state; and

(2) the number of professional nursing program graduates needed to address any difference between the numbers described by Subdivision (1).

(c) Not later than January 1, 2007, the council shall report to the legislature concerning the results of the analysis under Subsection (b).

(d) The council shall use existing resources to perform duties imposed under this section.

(e) This section expires June 1, 2007.

Added by Acts 2005, 79th Leg., ch. 674, Sec. 1, eff. June 17, 2005.