

New section 806(b)(2).—"Full-time students" means students pursuing a full-time course of study in an accredited program in a school of nursing.

Costs for educating nurses, particularly in collegiate and graduate programs, have increased as for all health professions. Schools cannot attract qualified faculties, provide comprehensive and supervised clinical practice, and increase enrollments, without financial assistance. It is essential that continuing basic support be provided for all health curricula to maintain the necessary level of quality. Our Consultant Group on Nursing recommended that Federal funds be made available to help schools meet the costs of nursing education. The Program Review Committee endorsed the principle of basic support grants for schools of nursing, but they took serious exceptions to supporting a single segment of nursing education. The Committee recommended that basic support grants be given to all types of accredited nursing programs: diploma, associate degree, baccalaureate and graduate degree.

Section 212 (new sec. 807(a)).—The Secretary may set the date by which applications for improvement or institutional grants must be filed.

New section 807(b).—The Secretary must consult with the National Advisory Council on Nurse Training before acting on any application.

New section 807(c).—An improvement or institutional grant may be made only: (1) to a public or nonprofit private school of nursing or (in the case of an improvement grant) public or nonprofit private agency, organization, or institution; (2) if recipient assures the Secretary that it will expend an amount of non-Federal funds which are at least as great as the average amount of funds expended by applicant in the 3 fiscal years preceding year for which the grant is sought; (3) if applicant provides information and gives assurance that Secretary requires; and (4) if applicant provides fiscal control and access to records as Secretary may require.

Section 212 (new sec. 808).—The bill would authorize appropriations of such sums as may be necessary for both the improvement grants and the institutional grants. The portion of the moneys appropriated for each fiscal year which would be available for special project improvement grants on the one hand, and formula institutional grants on the other, shall be determined by the Secretary unless otherwise provided in the appropriation acts for that year.

Section 213.—This makes a conforming change specifying the time that schools with reasonable assurance of accreditation applying for institutional grants under section 806 will become accredited.

Section 214.—This provides the effective date for these amendments.

Section 215.—With respect to fiscal year 1969, appropriations (under old sec. 805(a)) shall be available for planning special projects for which grants are authorized under the amended section beginning with fiscal year 1970.

PART C—STUDENT AID

Section 221.—The program of traineeships of professional nurses would be extended for 4 years (fiscal year 1970 through fiscal year 1973). Such sums as may be necessary would be authorized to be appropriated for each of the 4 years.