

641—88.3 (135) Eligibility for the volunteer health care provider program.

88.3(1) *Individual volunteer health care provider eligibility.* To be eligible for protection as an employee of the state under Iowa Code chapter 669 for a claim arising from covered health care services, an individual volunteer health care provider shall satisfy each of the following conditions at the time of the act or omission allegedly resulting in injury:

a. The individual volunteer health care provider shall hold an active unrestricted license, registration, or certification to practice in Iowa under Iowa Code chapter 147A, 148, 148A, 148B, 148C, 149, 151, 152, 152B, 152E, 153, 154, 154B, 154C, 154D, 154F, or 155A. The individual volunteer health care provider shall provide a sworn statement attesting that the license, registration, or certification to practice is free of restrictions. The statement shall describe any disciplinary action that has ever been taken against the individual volunteer health care provider by any professional licensing, registering, or certifying authority or health care facility, including any voluntary surrender of license, registration, or certification or other agreement involving the individual volunteer health care provider's license, registration, or certification to practice or any restrictions on practice, suspension of privileges, or other sanctions. The statement shall also describe any malpractice suits that have been filed against the individual volunteer health care provider. The statement provided by a pharmacist shall also describe any disciplinary action that has ever been taken against any pharmacy in which the pharmacist has ever been owner, partner, or officer.

(1) Every physician and dentist shall authorize the release of information allowing certified statements to be sent to the board of medicine or dental board from the National Practitioner Data Bank, the Federation of State Medical Boards Disciplinary Data Bank, or State Dental Boards Disciplinary Data Bank, as appropriate, setting forth any malpractice judgment or award or disciplinary action involving the physician or dentist.

(2) Every physical therapist, occupational therapist, physician assistant, podiatrist, chiropractor, respiratory therapist, licensed practical nurse, registered nurse, advanced registered nurse practitioner, optometrist, psychologist, bachelor social worker, master social worker, independent social worker, marital and family therapist, mental health counselor, speech pathologist, and audiologist shall request certified statements directly from the National Practitioner Data Bank-Healthcare Integrity and Protection Data Bank setting forth any malpractice judgment or award or disciplinary action involving the requester, shall pay the cost for such certified statements and shall submit such certified statements as part of the VHCPP application. Every chiropractor shall also authorize the release of information allowing certified statements to be sent to the board of chiropractic from the Chiropractic Information Network-Board Action Databank (CIN-BAD) setting forth any malpractice judgment or award or disciplinary action involving the chiropractor.

(3) Every pharmacist shall authorize the release of information allowing certified statements to be sent to the board of pharmacy from the National Association of Boards of Pharmacy setting forth any disciplinary action involving the pharmacist or any pharmacy in which the pharmacist has ever been owner, partner, or officer, and the pharmacist shall pay the cost for such certified statements. Every pharmacist shall also authorize the release of information from the pharmacist's malpractice insurance carrier to be sent to the board of pharmacy, and the pharmacist shall pay the cost for such release. Information released from the pharmacist's malpractice insurance carrier shall include the history and details of all claims that have been filed on behalf of the pharmacist or any pharmacy in which the pharmacist has ever been owner, partner, or officer, or confirmation that there have been no claims.

(4) Every emergency medical care provider shall authorize the release of information allowing information to be sent from the bureau of emergency medical services to the VHCPP setting forth any malpractice judgment or award or disciplinary action involving the requester and shall authorize the release of information allowing such information to be shared with the bureau of emergency medical services by licensing entities within and outside Iowa.

b. Application. The applicant shall submit the following information on forms provided by the VHCPP:

- (1) The patients to be served;
- (2) The health care services to be provided;
- (3) The site where health care services are to be provided;
- (4) The days and maximum number of hours when the free health care services will be provided each week at each site;
- (5) The services that will be provided to those persons who are uninsured and underinsured for the public health purpose of improved health, prevention of illness/injury, and disease management.

c. Agreement. The individual volunteer health care provider shall have a signed and current protection agreement with the VHCPP which identifies the covered health care services within the respective scope of practice and conditions of defense and indemnification as provided in rules 641—88.5(135) and 641—88.6(135). The protection agreement shall:

- (1) Provide that the individual volunteer health care provider shall perform only those health care services identified and approved by the VHCPP;
- (2) Identify the health care services to be provided by the sponsor entity or protected clinic which has been approved by the VHCPP through an application process;
- (3) Identify by category the patient groups to be served;
- (4) Identify the sites at which the free health care services will be provided;
- (5) Identify the maximum amount of time the free health care services will be provided by the individual volunteer health care provider at the identified sites each week;
- (6) Provide that the individual volunteer health care provider shall maintain proper records of the health care services;
- (7) Provide that the individual volunteer health care provider shall make no representations concerning eligibility for the VHCPP or eligibility of services for indemnification by the state except as authorized by the department;
- (8) Provide that the individual volunteer health care provider shall cooperate fully with the state in the defense of any claim or suit relating to participation in the VHCPP, including attending hearings, depositions and trials and assisting in securing and giving evidence, responding to discovery and obtaining the attendance of witnesses;
- (9) Provide that the individual volunteer health care provider shall accept financial responsibility for personal expenses and costs incurred in the defense of any claim or suit related to participation in the VHCPP, including travel, meals, compensation for time and lost practice, and copying costs, and agree that the state will not compensate the individual volunteer health care provider for the individual volunteer health care provider's expenses or time needed for the defense of the claim or suit;
- (10) Provide that the individual volunteer health care provider shall receive no direct monetary compensation of any kind for services provided in the VHCPP;
- (11) Provide that the individual volunteer health care provider shall comply with the protection agreement with the VHCPP concerning approved health care services.

88.3(2) *Protected clinic eligibility.* To be eligible for protection as a state agency under Iowa Code chapter 669 for a claim arising from the provision of covered health care services at a protected clinic, the protected clinic shall satisfy each of the following conditions at the time of the act or omission allegedly resulting in injury:

- a.* The protected clinic shall comply with subrules 88.4(1) through 88.4(5).
- b.* The protected clinic shall have provided to the department a list of all health care providers who provide health care services at the protected clinic.
- c.* The protected clinic shall have submitted proof to the department that each health care provider providing health care services at the protected clinic either:
 - (1) Holds a current protection agreement with the VHCPP, or
 - (2) Holds current professional liability insurance coverage and an active unrestricted license, registration, or certification to practice in Iowa under Iowa Code chapter 147A, 148, 148A, 148B, 148C, 149, 151, 152, 152B, 152E, 153, 154, 154B, 154C, 154D, 154F, or 155A.

d. The protected clinic shall submit a list of the clinic board of directors and contact information for the board of directors, if applicable.

e. If the protected clinic is a charitable organization within the meaning of Section 501(c)(3) of the Internal Revenue Code, the protected clinic shall provide proof of Section 501(c)(3) status to the VHCPP.

f. A protected clinic may allow health care profession students to volunteer at the protected clinic provided that the following conditions are satisfied:

(1) The college, university, or other health care profession educational institution provides professional liability insurance which covers the students; and

(2) The protected clinic or the health care profession institution provides general liability and professional liability insurance which covers the students; and

(3) The students provide only those services or activities as are authorized by the education agreement, and such services and activities are provided under the on-site supervision of a health care provider.

88.3(3) *Sponsor entity or sponsor entity clinic.* As a condition of sponsoring individual volunteer health care providers in the VHCPP, a hospital, clinic, free clinic, health care facility, health care referral program, charitable organization, specialty health care provider office, outpatient surgical facility, or field dental clinic shall comply with subrules 88.4(1) through 88.4(5).

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