to carry out the proposed project in a cost-effective manner.

5. The degree to which the applicant demonstrates institutional commitment to the proposed program.

The history of the program including number of residents who successfully completed the program.

Other Considerations

In addition, the following funding factors may be applied in determining funding of approved applications:

A funding preference is defined as the funding of a specific category or group of approved applications ahead of other categories or groups of approved applications.

A funding priority is defined as the favorable adjustment of aggregate review scores of individual approved applications when applications meet specified criteria.

It is not required that applicants request consideration for a funding factor. Applications which do not request consideration for funding factors will be reviewed and given full consideration for funding.

Statutory Funding Preference

As provided in section 791(a) of the PHS Act, preference will be given to qualified applicants that

(1) have a high rate for placing graduates in practice settings having the principal focus of serving residents of medically underserved communities; or

(2) have achieved, during the 2-year period preceding the fiscal year for which an award is sought, a significant increase in the rate of placing graduates in such settings.

This preference will only be applied to applications that rank above the 20th percentile of proposals recommended for approval by the peer review group.

Proposed Minimum Percentages for "High Rate" and "Significant Increase in the Rate"

"High rate" is defined as a minimum of 25 percent of graduates in academic year 1992–93 or academic year 1993–94, whichever is greater, who spend at least 50 percent of their worktime in clinical practice in the specified settings. Graduates who are providing care in a medically underserved community as a part of a fellowship or other educational experience can be counted.

"Significant increase in the rate" means that, between academic years 1992–93 and 1993–94, the rate of placing graduates in the specified settings has increased by a minimum of 50 percent and that not less than 15 percent of graduates from the most recent years are working in these settings.

Additional information concerning the implementation of this preference has been published in the **Federal Register** at 59 FR 15743, dated April 4, 1994.

Established Funding Priorities

The following funding priorities were established, after public comment (53 FR 46506, dated November 17, 1988 and 56 FR 46798, dated September 16, 1991), and are being extended in FY 1995. In the funding of approved applications, a funding priority will be given to projects which will:

- 1. Conduct residency training in areas of general preventive medicine or public health.
- 2. Enroll at least four residents in the academic year and at least four residents in the field year with evidence provided that the projected number can be realized from a current or projected applicant pool.
- 3. Propose to provide educational experiences to demonstrate to residents the provision of primary care/preventive services for underserved populations.

Additional Information

Interested persons are invited to comment on the proposed minimum percentages for "high rate" and 'significant increase in the rate" for implementation of the general statutory funding preference. The comment period is 30 days. All comments received on or before February 22, 1995 will be considered before the final minimum percentages for "high rate" and "significant increase in the rate" for implementation of the general statutory funding preference are established. Written comments should be addressed to: Neil Sampson, Director, Division of Associated, Dental, and Public Health Professions, Bureau of Health Professions, Health Resources and Services Administration, Parklawn Building, Room 8-101, 5600 Fishers Lane, Rockville, Maryland 20857.

All comments received will be available for public inspection and copying at the Division of Associated, Dental, and Public Health Professions, Bureau of Health Professions, at the above address, weekdays (Federal holidays excepted) between the hours of 8:30 a.m. and 5:00 p.m.

Information Requirements Provision

Under section 791(b) of the Act, the Secretary may make an award under the Grants for Residency Training in Preventive Medicine only if the applicant for the award submits to the Secretary the following information:

1. A description of rotations or preceptorships for students, or clinical

training programs for residents, that have the principal focus of providing health care to medically underserved communities.

- 2. The number of faculty on admissions committees who have a clinical practice in community-based ambulatory settings in medically underserved communities.
- 3. With respect to individuals who are from disadvantaged backgrounds or from medically underserved communities, the number of such individuals who are recruited for academic programs of the applicant, the number of such individuals who are admitted to such programs, and the number of such individuals who graduate from such programs.
- 4. If applicable, the number of recent graduates who have chosen careers in primary health care.
- 5. The number of recent graduates whose practices are serving medically underserved communities.
- 6. A description of whether and to what extent the applicant is able to operate without Federal assistance under this title.

Additional details concerning the implementation of this information requirement have been published in the **Federal Register** at 58 FR 43642, dated August 17, 1993, and will be provided in the application materials.

Application Requests

Requests for application materials and questions regarding grants policy and business management issues should be directed to: Ms. Brenda Selser, Grants Management Branch, Bureau of Health Professions, Health Resources and Services Administration, Parklawn Building, Room 8C–26, 5600 Fishers Lane, Rockville, Maryland 20857, Telephone: (301) 443–6960, FAX: (301) 443–6343.

Completed applications should be returned to the Grants Management Branch at the above address.

If additional programmatic information is needed, please contact: D. W. Chen, M.D., M.P.H., Division of Associated, Dental, and Public Health Professions, Bureau of Health Professions, Health Resources and Services Administration, Parklawn Building, Room 8C–09, 5600 Fishers Lane, Rockville, Maryland 20857, Telephone: (301) 443–6896, FAX: (301) 443–1164.

The deadline date for receipt of applications is March 10, 1995. Applications will be considered to be "on time" if they are either:

(1) *Received on or before* the established deadline date, or