§ 2752. Functions, powers and duties. In order to further the declared purposes of this article, the institute shall have the following functions, powers and duties:

1. To contract with such regional burns care centers as the commissioner may determine, and on connection therewith, to:

(a) conduct scientific investigations of methods of treatment of burn injuries and rehabilitation of burn injury victims, such investigations to be primarily conducted as clinical research investigations; and to

(b) conduct a program of professional education and training in the treatment of burn injury and the rehabilitation of victims of burn injury for medical students, physicians, nurses and ambulance attendants located in the vicinities of the central and regional burns treatment centers.

2. To determine the need for and coordinate and supervise the establishment and operation of such regional and local burns treatment centers as are necessary in the state.

3. To develop and supervise programs of professional education and training in the treatment of burn injury and the rehabilitation of victims of burn injury for medical students, physicians, nurses and ambulance attendants in regional and local burns treatment centers.

4. To gather data and statistics and conduct investigations and research relating to the causes and prevention of burn injuries and the treatment of burn injury victims including the methods and procedures for their rehabilitation, and to disseminate information and conduct educational programs as to such causes, prevention and treatment.

5. To enter into such contracts and agreements with individuals, colleges, universities, associations, corporations, municipalities and other units of government as may be deemed necessary and advisable to carry out the general intent and purposes of this article. Such contracts may provide for payment by the state for materials, equipment or services.

6. The commissioner may adopt such rules and regulations as are necessary to effectuate the purposes and provisions of this article.