



## INFORMATION MEMORANDUM

SUA-19-IM-04

May 31, 2019  
Revised

**TO:** Area Agencies on Aging Directors

**FROM:** Cynthia Brammeier, Administrator, State Unit on Aging

**BY:** Ben Stromberg, Program Coordinator  
Doug Bauch, Program Manager DB

**SUBJECT:** OAA Funds For Home Modifications

**CONTENT:** This revised Information Memorandum fully replaces the previous issuance.

The Administration for Community Living (ACL) has granted Nebraska a waiver of the limit on home modifications.

This change provides:

- 1) Nebraska Area Agencies on Aging Directors with the ability to approve applicable home modification and repair expenditures up to \$500.00 per client, and
- 2) Upon request, the SUA Director may approve an AAA request for applicable home modification and repair expenditures between \$500.01 and \$1,000.00 per client.

The Older Americans Act 102(30)(E) and 45 CFR Sec. 1321 – Older Americans Act: Title III Regulations both specify that in-home service, as used in this part, includes minor modification of homes that is necessary to facilitate the ability of older individuals to remain at home, that is not available under other programs.

This waiver pertains to 45 CFR Sec. 1321.3 (e) which limited expenditures to \$150.00 per client for such modification.

**§1321.3 Definitions.**

45 CFR Sec. 1321.3 (e) does not provide details on the applicability of other programs. Per ACL, the Area Agency on Aging is required to first determine if the client is eligible for other federally, state, and locally funded programs in the state for the service, before using OAA funds for minor home modifications. The agency is required to document determination efforts ensuring the client was not eligible for the service from any other program.

ACL guidance identified the limit is per client lifetime. The agency will need to account for these expenditures in the client record to ensure they do not exceed the limit over the lifetime of the client.

If the necessary and permitted home modification exceeds \$500.00, please submit a formal request to the SUA for up to \$1000.00 to [dhhs.aging@nebraska.gov](mailto:dhhs.aging@nebraska.gov). The request must identify the client by ID, home address, modification description, family resources being utilized (if any), other programs utilized (if any), other programs applied to and result of the application, other pertinent information to validate the use of the funds for this client, and previous home modification expenditures with OAA funds.

If you have questions, please feel free to contact Ben at 402-471-4555; Doug at 402-471-4797 or via email at [dhhs.aging@nebraska.gov](mailto:dhhs.aging@nebraska.gov).