

# Older Americans Act & Major Disaster Declaration For COVID-19

This information is accurate as of April 8, 2020 12 PM Central

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# Overview

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- ▶ Major Disaster Declaration
- ▶ Older Americans Act
- ▶ Administration for Community Living Guidance
- ▶ New Service & Reimbursement Process
- ▶ Services in your PSA
- ▶ Questions & Answers

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# Major Disaster Declaration

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- ▶ Emergency Declaration on March 13, 2020.

<https://www.fema.gov/disaster/3483>

- ▶ Major Disaster Declaration for Nebraska on April 4, 2020

<https://www.fema.gov/disaster/4521>

- ▶ Incident Period: January 20, 2020 and continuous

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# Older Americans Act

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## Section 310 (a)(1)

- ▶ (a)(1) The Assistant Secretary may provide reimbursements to any State (or to any tribal organization receiving a grant under title VI), upon application for such reimbursement, for funds such State makes available to area agencies on aging in such State (or funds used by such tribal organization) for the delivery of supportive services (and related supplies) during any major disaster declared by the President in accordance with the Robert T. Stafford Relief and Emergency Assistance Act.
- ▶ **Nebraska's Major Disaster Declaration initiates section 310 of the Older Americans Act.**

# Older Americans Act

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## Section 310 (a)(2)

- ▶ (2) Total payments to all States and such tribal organizations under paragraph (1) in any fiscal year shall not exceed 2 percent of the total amount appropriated and available to carry out title IV.
- ▶ Title IV is:
  - ▶ (1) to expand the Nation's knowledge and understanding of the older population and the aging process;
  - ▶ (2) to design, test, and promote the use of innovative ideas and best practices in programs and services for older individuals;
  - ▶ (3) to help meet the needs for trained personnel in the field of aging; and
  - ▶ (4) to increase awareness of citizens of all ages of the need to assume personal responsibility for their own longevity.
- ▶ **This does not apply to Nebraska at this time.**

# Older Americans Act

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## Section 310 (a)(3)

- ▶ (3) If the Assistant Secretary decides, in the 5-day period beginning on the date such disaster is declared by the President, to provide an amount of reimbursement under paragraph (1) to a State or such tribal organization, then the Assistant Secretary shall provide not less than 75 percent of such amount to such State or such tribal organization not later than 5 days after the date of such decision.
- ▶ **ACL is allowing all Title III (OAA), FFCRA, and CARES Act funding sources to support all services.**

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# Older Americans Act

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## Section 310 (b)(1) & (2)

- ▶ (b)(1) At the beginning of each fiscal year the Assistant Secretary shall set aside, for payment to States and such tribal organizations under subsection (a), an amount equal to 2 percent of the total amount appropriated and available to carry out title IV.
- ▶ (2) Amounts set aside under paragraph (1) which are not obligated by the end of the third quarter of any fiscal year shall be made available to carry out title IV. .
- ▶ **This does not apply to Nebraska at this time.**

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# Older Americans Act

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## Section 310 (c)

- ▶ (c) Nothing in this section shall be construed to prohibit expenditures by States and such tribal organizations for disaster relief for older individuals in excess of amounts reimbursable under this section, by using funds made available to them under other sections of this Act or under other provisions of Federal or State law, or from private sources.
- ▶ **OAA/Title III funding is available to support older individuals during the time of disaster.**

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# ACL Guidance

- Disaster Relief Guidance:

[https://acl.gov/sites/default/files/common/OAADisasterRelief\\_2020-03-16.pdf](https://acl.gov/sites/default/files/common/OAADisasterRelief_2020-03-16.pdf)

- “Without the need for a separate application, transfer request, or request for a waiver -- to use existing allocations already made to them under Title III-B, C-1, C-2, D, and E for disaster relief.”
- Examples:

Pre-Disaster Declaration	Post- Disaster Declaration
III-D funds can only be used for Evidence-Based programs.	III-D funds can be used for other services like phone wellness checks.
The only federal funds to support COVID19 TGM are III-C2.	III-B and III-C1 meals can be used to fund COVID19 TGM.



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# ACL Guidance

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- Disaster Relief Guidance:

[https://acl.gov/sites/default/files/common/OAADisasterRelief\\_2020-03-16.pdf](https://acl.gov/sites/default/files/common/OAADisasterRelief_2020-03-16.pdf)

- “For your own records, we recommend that specific fiscal and program reporting of funds reallocated for disaster relief be identified as “COVID-19” with notes that describe what was provided and what services were initially planned, but not provided. ... ACL will provide further details regarding both fiscal and program reporting as soon as practicable. Please note that you may wish to consider how you will record other program data as additional funds may become available via other sources.”
- **For reimbursement, auditing, and reporting purposes, we will need to know “where the money” went.**

# ACL Guidance

- Disaster Relief Guidance:

<https://acl.gov/sites/default/files/common/Posted%20-%20AoA%20-%20State%20Flexibilities%20in%20COVID-19%20with%20OEA%20edits.docx>

- “Due to the unprecedented nature and magnitude of this COVID-19 pandemic, prior to distributing funding through the required IFF, the SUA may subtract up to 5% of funding under the OAA, Families First Coronavirus Response Act (FFCRA), and/or Coronavirus Aid, Relief, and Economic Security (CARES) Act for the SUA’s use in making direct expenditures and/or acting to procure items on a statewide level... For example, a SUA could use such set aside funding to make awards to portions of a state that may be more severely impacted by COVID-19 or to directly purchase services and supplies.”
- **This allows the SUA flexibility beyond the Intrastate Funding Formula.**

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# New Service & Reimbursement Process

AAA Actions	SUA Actions
Identify New COVID-19 Service	
Submit New COVID-19 Service Form	
	Review New COVID-19 Service Form
	Request New COVID-19 Service in PeerPlace
	Track New COVID-19 Service as a new column within budget worksheet
	Confirm New COVID-19 Service to AAA
Track New COVID-19 Service	
Request New COVID-19 Service Reimbursement with Form A	
	Process AAA payment request

# New Service & Reimbursement Process

## Identify & Submit New COVID-19 Service Form

- Reasons to have a new service/service type created:

Reason	Funding Source(s)	Service Description	Service Name Example
New COVID-19 Service	III-C1, FFCRA-CMC2, CARES Act	Grocery Delivery	COVID19 HD Grocery
Same Service, New Funding Source	III-C1, FFCRA-CMC2	Homemaker	COVID19 C1 Homemaker
Changed Service/Program Qualifications	III-C2, FFCRA-CMC2, CARES Act	Home Delivered Meal for COVID19 reasons only	COVID19 HDM (NSIP)

- Submit New COVID-19 Service Form (this will be attached to Area Plan)

# New Service & Reimbursement Process

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## SUA Actions

- ▶ Review New COVID-19 Service Form
- ▶ Request New COVID-19 Service in PeerPlace
- ▶ Track New COVID-19 Service as a new column within budget worksheet
- ▶ Confirm New COVID-19 Service to AAA

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# New Service & Reimbursement Process

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## Track New COVID-19 Service

- ▶ Keep things easy to track. New service ≠ New log sheet/grid/roster if already printed.
- ▶ Services should\* have basic demographic information collected:
  - ▶ Client Name (First and Last Name)
  - ▶ Date of Birth (DOB)
  - ▶ Gender
  - ▶ Zip Code (Full Address where applicable)
  - ▶ Ethnicity
  - ▶ Race
  - ▶ Relationship to Care Recipient (Caregivers Only)
- ▶ Best Practice to Collect:
  - ▶ Poverty Status
  - ▶ Household Status (Lives Alone?)
- ▶ New Service Type = New Event Profile

\* Information & Assistance is not included.

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# New Service & Reimbursement Process

Request New COVID-19 Service Reimbursement with Form A

- ▶ List **Funding Source** then **Service Name**

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<b>Sub-grantee:</b>	Area Agency on Aging Name	
<b>Funding Source (Budget Tab):</b>	III-C1 COVID19 HD Grocery	

NEBRASKA		Monthly
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<b>Sub-grantee:</b>	Area Agency on Aging Name	
<b>Funding Source (Budget Tab):</b>	III-C1 COVID19 Homemaker	

NEBRASKA		Month
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<b>Sub-grantee:</b>	Area Agency on Aging Name	
<b>Funding Source (Budget Tab):</b>	III-C2 COVID19 HDM (NSIP)	



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**What services have you started providing?**

**What services is your AAA interested in starting?**

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# Questions & Answers

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