

173-4-10

Older Americans Act nutrition program: grocery shopping assistance.

(A) "Grocery shopping assistance" means a service for a consumer who needs assistance shopping for groceries that assists ~~consumers~~ the consumer with the act of shopping for groceries.

(B) Requirements for every AAA-provider agreement for grocery shopping assistance paid, in whole or in part, with Older Americans Act funds:

(1) The AAA-provider agreement is subject to rule 173-3-06 of the Administrative Code.

(2) Introductory information: The provider shall provide a consumer with a packet of introductory information that explains how grocery shopping assistance works on the consumer's enrollment ~~into the~~ in grocery shopping assistance ~~service~~.

(3) Transferring groceries: The AAA-provider agreement shall indicate the extent to which it requires the provider to transfer ~~the a consumer's~~ groceries that the consumer purchases or receives between the store and the consumer's home.

(4) Payment:

(a) No Older Americans Act funds, other than funds from Title III-B, III-C, or III-E of the Older Americans Act, may pay for grocery shopping assistance.

(b) No Older Americans Act funds, other than funds from Title III-B, III-C, or III-E of the Older Americans Act, may pay for consumable supplies or material aid to meet a consumer's basic needs or preferences, such as groceries. Providers may accept other funds (e.g., private pay, SNAP) for consumable supplies or material aid to meet a consumer's basic needs or preferences.

(5) Service verification:

(a) The following are the mandatory reporting items for each episode of assistance that a provider retains to comply with the requirements under paragraph (B)(9) of rule 173-3-06 of the Administrative Code:

(i) Consumer's name.

(ii) Service date.

(iii) Pick-up time and location.

- (iv) Drop-off time and location.
 - (v) Service units.
 - (vi) Unique identifier of the consumer or the consumer's caregiver to attest to receiving the service.
- (b) During a state of emergency declared by the governor or a federal public health emergency, the provider may verify each episode of service provided without collecting the unique identifier of the consumer or the consumer's caregiver.
- (C) Units: One unit of grocery shopping assistance is one-way transportation to or from a retail food establishment or non-profit food establishment.

Effective:

Five Year Review (FYR) Dates: 9/19/2025

Certification

Date

Promulgated Under: 119.03
Statutory Authority: 121.07, 173.01, 173.02, 173.392; 42 U.S.C. 3025; 45 C.F.R. 1321.9, 1321.87
Rule Amplifies: 173.39, 173.392; 42 U.S.C. 3030e, 3030f; 45 C.F.R. 1321.87
Prior Effective Dates: 03/05/2009, 09/01/2016, 06/11/2020 (Emer.), 10/29/2020, 01/29/2022, 01/01/2023