

CALIFORNIA DEPARTMENT OF AGING

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PROGRAM MEMO

TO: Area Agencies on Aging
NO: 20-24
DATE ISSUED: December 31, 2020
SUBJECT: Delayed Budget for Federal Fiscal Year 2021 Older Americans Act Funding
EXPIRES: June 30, 2021
PROGRAMS AFFECTED: Older Americans Act Title III, Title VII, and Nutrition Services Incentives Program
SUPERSEDES: N/A

PURPOSE

This Program Memo (PM) is to inform AAAs that Older Americans Act (OAA) appropriations are delayed. The Federal Fiscal Year (FFY) 2021 budget was passed and signed on December 27, 2020. The Administration for Community Living (ACL) has advised CDA that the remaining appropriations will be made available in approximately six weeks.

BACKGROUND

To date, CDA has received 26% of our overall OAA federal funding, which is approximately \$29 million of the \$107 million needed to fulfill October-2020 through June-2021 payments.

CDA is working internally to find solutions to the delayed federal cash-flow and we encourage AAAs to continue submitting advance and reimbursement requests. CDA will continue doing all that we can to fulfill payments.

NEXT STEPS FOR AAAS

Until additional federal funds are allocated by ACL, CDA intends to process payment requests for AAAs up to the Interstate Funding Formula (IFF) share of the 26% California has received. CDA will also prioritize payments to those AAAs with the most urgent cash-flow issues, while postponing payments to AAAs that can manage with delayed OAA payments.

- CDA asks that any AAA that anticipates cash-flow and service-level disruptions, due to the delayed federal budget, contact us directly via email (Nicole.Dopp@aging.ca.gov). We will do all that we can to work with you to ensure continuity of operations and payments.
- Alternatively, if your AAA is one that can maintain operations with delayed payment, CDA requests that you inform us immediately via email (Nicole.Dopp@aging.ca.gov)

BUDGET DISPLAYS

CDA will release Budget Displays reflective of the available appropriations on our website (www.aging.ca.gov) that provide each AAA with the amount of Title III, Title VII, General Fund, and Special

Funds available within the Fiscal Year 2020-21 Area Plan contracts. These Budget Displays are informational and for planning purposes only.

CDA will send out a notice with the link to the modified Budget Displays once they are posted to our website.

INTERIM AND/OR ALTERNATIVE SOLUTIONS

AAAs have the option to request all state funding at any time, which means, all Area Plan General Fund and Special Funds can be requested and disbursed immediately.

Additionally, we encourage AAAs to utilize your Coronavirus Aid, Relief, and Economic Security (CARES) Act funding to sustain operations and COVID-19 response efforts. The federal government has provided AAAs with the full flexibility to utilize funds as needed during the COVID-19 pandemic on most response efforts, which means your OAA and CARES Act funding can be utilized on any of the Area Plan activities.

As mentioned above, CDA asks that AAAs continue to submit their full Request for Funds and/or Advance Requests. CDA will continue to process payments up to the allowable amount and will take into consideration those AAAs that have expressed concerns with cash-flow issues and those AAAs that have shared that they can sustain operations under delayed payment processing.

FUTURE UPDATES

As we learn more from ACL regarding the federal budget and when we receive the next OOA NOA, we will reach out with additional communications.

INQUIRIES

If you have any questions regarding this PM or the direction that is provided, please contact Nicole Dopp, Chief Financial Officer (Nicole.Dopp@aging.ca.gov).

Thank you for your patience and understanding as we work through this.

/s/

/s/

Irene Walela, Deputy Director
Long-Term Care and Aging Services Division
California Department of Aging

Thomas D. Cameron, Deputy Director
Division of Administrative Services
California Department of Aging

cc: Kim McCoy Wade, Director, California Department of Aging
Mark Beckley, Chief Deputy Director, Department of Aging
Joseph Rodrigues, State Long-Term Care Ombudsman, California Department of Aging
California Association of Area Agencies on Aging (C4A)