

Guidance for Return to Standard Operations for the Older Americans Act Programs Post-COVID-19 Major Disaster Declaration

Appendix C of PM 23-05: Title IIID Health Promotion – Evidence-Based Programs

This document provides guidance for resuming standard and/or adapted operations for the Older Americans Act (OAA) Title IIID Health Promotion – Evidence-Based Programs following the end of the Major Disaster Declaration (MDD).

Program Flexibilities

Guidance on the reversal and/or adaptation of program flexibilities is documented in the COVID-19 Flexibilities and Return to Standard Operations FAQs and supersedes the *Updated COVID-19 FAQs*.

The requirement for Title IIID funds to be used for approved evidence-based programs (EBP) has resumed as per Area Plan 2223 Contract Release Memo 22-07. Refer to the National Council on Aging (NCOA) list of [Evidence-Based Programs](#) to search for approved EBPs by name or by category. Activities that do not meet evidence-based requirements may be funded through the Title IIIB Health service category.

The decision to resume in-person services remains at the discretion of the AAAs based on state and local public health guidance, along with an assessment of the readiness of the program staff and older adults in the community. The AAAs have the flexibility to adjust for in-person or remote services based on local circumstances and program guidance for the specific EBP. See the **Remote Services** section for more information.

A consideration for in-person services includes proper ventilation. As noted in the SMARTER Steps, meeting outdoors is always the safest, but indoor air quality can be improved for indoor activities. Improve ventilation for indoor activities by opening doors and windows and/or using portable air cleaners when possible. Refer to [PM 23-05](#) for additional resources for reducing the risk of COVID-19.

Remote Services

The Administration for Community Living (ACL) supports the option for OAA service providers to continue the delivery of remote Title IIID programs indefinitely if the following two requirements are met:

1. The program developer/administrator allows/supports remote delivery; and
2. The program meets ACL's OAA Title III-D evidence-based requirement for delivery in an in-person and/or remote format.

To determine if a program continues to allow remote delivery, refer to the NCOA site for [Tracking Health Promotion Program Guidance During COVID-19](#). This NCOA resource lists programs in the following categories:

- Programs always implemented remotely
- Programs temporarily allowable by phone or videoconference
- Programs not allowable remotely

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To determine if a program meets ACL's OAA Title III-D evidence-based requirement, refer to the NCOA searchable list of [Evidence-Based Programs](#).

Reporting

Title IIID services provided with OAA funds are reported as usual in CARS. Title IIID services provided with supplemental funds are reported on CDA's annual State Program Report Supplemental Relief Form.