



## SURVIVAL GUIDE: Navigating ACL's guidance for administering Title III-C during the COVID-19 pandemic

**Last update: July 28, 2020 (will be updated periodically)**

During this pandemic, ACL has provided information, guidance, technical assistance, and program implementation tips to assist states in meeting the nutritional needs of the seniors. These resources have been published on the [ACL COVID website](#) and on the website of the [National Resource Center on Nutrition and Aging](#).

Because this has been a rapidly and frequently changing situation, these resources have been iterative, and we know it has become difficult to quickly determine which resource contains the information you need. This Survival Guide is intended to help by linking you to the resources that best address a variety of topics. (These are primarily nutrition-focused, but also include OAA Title III- B and E information that helps the user of this guide navigate nutrition matters.)

### Comparing Authorities

The [Older Americans Act](#) (OAA) provides significant flexibility to allow states to meet the unique needs of their older citizens. In addition, states are operating under four disaster authorities that provide additional flexibilities. This [Excel spreadsheet](#) created by NRCNA explains these authorities.

### ACL Fiscal Guidance: Found on [ACL's COVID-19 Page](#)

Resource	Date	Topic Highlights
<a href="#">Frequently Asked Questions: Title III-B and Title III-E</a>	April 23	Permissibility of paying for various items such as grocery delivery, tablets, computers, cell phones, internet, etc. to help seniors connect with persons to combat social isolation. (These purchases could support virtual nutrition education, evidence-based /health promoting programs to promote health and well-being, access to online ordering systems, and/or virtual congregate sites to enhance socialization.)
<a href="#">Fiscal FAQ: Fiscal Major Disaster</a>	April 8	When operating under an MDD <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• How funds can be “bucketed”</li> </ul> Match requirements
<a href="#">FISCAL FAQ- COVID-19 Emergency</a>	April 8	When NOT operating under an MDD <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Funding transfer authorities for C-1 and C-2;</li> <li>• Match requirements;</li> </ul> Reporting, etc.
<a href="#">FISCAL FAQ- COVID-19 Emergency</a> And <a href="#">Fiscal FAQ: Fiscal Major Disaster</a>	April 8	How long FFCRA and CARES Act funds are available
<a href="#">Expediting Expenditures at the State Level in Responding to the COVID-19 Emergency</a>	April 6	Statewide Procurement
<a href="#">OAA Disaster Relief Authority</a>	March 16	Information on OAA authority

## ACL Program Guidance:

Resource	Date	Topic Highlights
<a href="#">FAQs – Groceries and OAA Programs</a>	May 20	FAQs that address common questions about providing groceries through OAA programs (i.e. use of groceries and meal counts, grocery pickup/delivery and services authorized under Title III-C).
<a href="#">Returning to a “New Normal:” Guidelines for a phased approach to resuming senior nutrition program operations</a>	May 5	Suggestions for operating at different levels of social distancing
<a href="#">FAQs: Based on Call with ACL and SUA Directors on April 22, 2020</a>	April 29	COVID-19 supplemental funds spending priorities
<a href="#">Additional FAQ: OAA Nutrition Program Implementation During COVID-19 Pandemic- April 17, 2020</a>	April 17	Additional nutrition questions, meals per person, vendor selection, state procurement, meal rates
<a href="#">FAQs Based on Call with ACL and State Unit on Aging Directors on April 8, 2020</a>	April 14	Personal protective equipment; equipment purchases for the nutrition program; major disaster flexibilities; purchasing freezers
<a href="#">FAQs Based on Call with ACL and State Unit on Aging Directors on April 1, 2020</a>	April 7	Flexibilities in Cares Act, innovations from other states; serving people of any age; emergency meals; DRIS/DGAs, 1/3 calorie intake; Major Disaster Declarations, and Time Frame Expenditures
<a href="#">Questions and Answer from the Meals on Wheels America Town Hall on March 17, 2020</a>	March 31	Specific nutrition implementation questions
<a href="#">Nutrition Services Incentive Program for the Older Americans Act and States</a>	March 30	Nutrition Services Incentive Program (NSIP)
<a href="#">FAQs: Call with State Directors hosted by Advancing States on March 23, 2020</a>	March 27	States increasing meals served; increasing food to senior; eliminate waitlist; socialization
<a href="#">FAQ: Nutrition Services- Emergency Management</a>	March 12	Program specific questions around implementation of practices, emergency meals, and how to administer the nutrition program during emergencies

## ACL Reporting Requirements

Check this resource Location	Date	Topic Highlights
<a href="#">OAA Title III Program Reporting Guidance Covid Response FAQs</a>	June 4	State Program Report FAQs related to COVID-19 (including reporting on nutrition risk and other demographic information)
<a href="#">Title VI Reporting Guidance For Covid-19 Response Activities</a>	May 4	OAA Title VI Reporting Requirements for Families First Coronavirus Response Act (FFCRA) and Coronavirus Aid, Relief and Economic Recovery Act (CARES) funding
<a href="#">OAA Title-III Program Reporting Guidance</a>	May 4	Guidance regarding programmatic OAA Title III reporting on the FFCRA and CARES Act supplemental grant funds, as well as services provided by states exercising flexibility under a major disaster declaration (MDD).

**Nutrition Resource Center Implementation Tip Sheets:** The Nutrition Resource center is funded by a Cooperative Agreement with ACL. Tip sheets are developed to provide you with how to guides, best practices, etc. to help you through this crisis.

All of the following are found on the [NRCNA COVID-19 web page](#)

Tip Sheet	Date	Topic
<a href="#">Partnerships with Foodbanks and other United States Department of Agriculture (USDA) Programs during Covid-19</a>	July 22	Information on how to partner with the many USDA programs to address food insecurity, hunger, and malnutrition
<a href="#">Enhancing Socialization through Making Meaningful Volunteer Connections during COVID-19</a>	June 3	Tips for nutrition services volunteers to help older adults feel supported and engaged.
<a href="#">COVID-19 Suggestions for Senior Nutrition Programs offering Home Delivered Meals</a>	June 1	Program policies and practical tips during COVID-19
<a href="#">Options for Contracting Meals During COVID-19</a>	May 14	Options for contracting meals during COVID-19 (suggestions for potential meal providers and tools to utilize when reviewing and evaluating potential meal providers)
<a href="#">1/3 Calorie Intake Requirements During COVID-19</a>	April 28	Includes minimum requirements, calorie charts
<a href="#">Volunteer Engagement and Recruitment Resources</a>	April 21	Resources for recruiting volunteers
<a href="#">Contracting Tips for Purchasing Meals/Food</a>	April 20	Tips for negotiating with vendors of meals/food
<a href="#">Guide to Working with Restaurants and Grocery Stores for Meals</a>	April 17	Suggestions for working with restaurants and grocery stores as meal vendors
<a href="#">Nutrition Requirements: DRIs/DGAs under Supplement Funding Due to COVID-19 Emergency</a>	April 3	Dietary Reference Intakes (DRIs)/Dietary Guidelines for Americans (DGAs)
<a href="#">COVID-19 Suggestions for Senior Nutrition Programs</a>	March 30	Suggestions for maintaining congregate and home delivered programs, increasing meals/food delivery, and engaging older adults during social distancing
<a href="#">Frequently Asked Emergency Management Questions for Aging Services Professionals at the State and Local Levels</a>	March 12	Serving meals during an emergency

**Other Resources:** Additional resources are available on [ACL's COVID-19 Page](#). Below are a few highlighted resources that you might find helpful.

Resource	Topic Highlights	Date	Location
<a href="#">Community-Based Organizations(CBOs) during Covid-19</a>	Information and resources for CBOs including (Equipping CBOs to Return to Work, Supporting Clients and Family Caregiver Networks, Bringing Innovation to CBO Service and Improving the Integration of CBOs)	July 17	<a href="#">PHE.GOV</a>
<a href="#">Aging and Disability Business Institute</a>	<a href="#">Contracting Toolkit</a> – multi-part resource to help community-based organizations with health care contracting.	June 9	<a href="https://www.aginganddisabilitybusinessinstitute.org/">https://www.aginganddisabilitybusinessinstitute.org/</a> <a href="https://www.aginganddisabilitybusinessinstitute.org/resources/contracting-toolkit/">https://www.aginganddisabilitybusinessinstitute.org/resources/contracting-toolkit/</a>
<a href="#">Community and Faith Based Organizations</a>	Information and resources for reopening community and faith based organizations	May 4	<a href="#">CDC.GOV</a>
<a href="#">Shared and Congregate Housing</a>	Information and resources for reopening shared and congregate housing	April 30	<a href="#">CDC.GOV</a>
<a href="#">Reconstitution During the COVID-19 Pandemic</a>	Planning considerations for organizations	April 30	<a href="#">FEMA.GOV</a>
<a href="#">FEMA Public Assistance Program Guidance: Eligibility of Purchasing and Distributing of</a>	Requirements for determining eligible work and costs for the purchase/distribution of food	April 21	<a href="#">ACL.gov/COVID</a>

<a href="#">Food by Gov't and Non-Profits</a>			
<a href="#">ADvancing States -Social Isolation</a>	Creative and thoughtful approaches to addressing social isolation/loneliness in older adults. Also includes alternative meal delivery options	April 9	<a href="#">ADvancingstates.org</a>
<a href="#">NCOA Senior Centers Without Walls</a>	Toolkit for those offering essential services. Provides ideas for promoting social connection to participants.		<a href="#">NCOA.ORG</a>
<a href="#">NCOA "Virtual Platform" Sheet</a>	Overview of popular tools to connect with your audience when outreach and education are taking place at a distance.		<a href="#">NCOA.ORG</a>
<a href="#">NCOA – FAQ Covid-19 and Technology Resources</a>	FAQs related to discounted tablets and electronic devices, learning basic functions of electronic devices, and resources for obtaining internet access.		<a href="#">NCOA.ORG</a>