

Supportive Services Program Narrative Older Americans Act Title IIIB Services

Description

The Older Americans Act (OAA) seeks to enable all older individuals to maintain their well-being through locally developed community-based systems of services. The OAA Title IIIB Supportive Services Program provides a variety of services to address functional limitations, maintain health and independence, promote access to services, and socialization.

These services promote older adults' ability to maintain the highest possible levels of function, participation and dignity in the community.

Definitions:

Instrumental Activities of Daily Living (IADLs) - a person having difficulty with one or more of the following: preparing meals, shopping for personal items, medication management, money management, using the telephone, heavy/light housework, transportation.

Activities of Daily Living (ADLs) - a person having difficulty with one or more of the following: eating, bathing, toileting, transferring in/out of bed/chair, walking, dressing.

Title IIIB provides funding for a variety of supportive services programs, some of which are noted here:

Service Descriptions:

Chore: Performance of heavy household tasks provided such as heavy housework, yard work (weed eating, lawn moving, snow blowing), sidewalk maintenance, and other home maintenance. Registered service.
Unit measure: 1 hour

Health: Activities such as non-evidence-based medication management, health screening, physical fitness, therapy, and hospice to assist older individuals to improve or maintain physical health and secure necessary medical, preventive health, or health maintenance services. Health screening, therapy, and hospice must be provided by a licensed health professional or by a paraprofessional supervised by a licensed health professional. Does not include services covered by Medicare, Medi-Cal, or other health insurance. Medication management means activities that facilitate safe and effective use of prescription and over-the-counter drug. These activities may include medication screening and education to an individual and/or the caregiver to prevent incorrect medication administration and adverse drug reaction. Primary activities are normally on a one-to-one basis; if done as a group activity, each participant shall be counted as one contact unit. Non-registered service.

Unit measure: 1 hour

Homemaker: Performance of light housekeeping tasks provided in a person's home. Provision of assistance such as preparing meals, shopping for personal and household items, managing money, using the telephone or doing light housework. Registered service.
Unit measure: 1 hour.

Information & Assistance: A service that: (A) provides individuals with information on services available within the communities; (B) links individuals to the services and opportunities that are available within the communities; (C) to the maximum extent practical, establishes adequate follow-up procedures. Internet web site 'hits' are to be counted only if information is requested and supplies, and (C) is satisfied. The maximum extent practicable includes offering a follow-up call to all individuals who were linked to a service. Individuals can remain anonymous and refuse a follow-up call. Non-registered service.
Unit measure: 1 contact

Legal Assistance: Legal advice, counseling or representation by an attorney or other person acting under the supervision of an attorney. Restricted service.
Unit measure: 1 hour

Personal Care: Provision of personal assistance, stand-by assistance, supervision or cues to persons having difficulty with one or more ADLs and/or health – related tasks provided in a person's home. Personal care may include assistance with Instrumental Activities of Daily Living (IADLS). Registered service.
Unit measure: 1 hour

Residential Repair: Minor residential modifications of owner-occupied homes that are necessary to facilitate the ability of older individuals to remain at home. Includes minor repairs/renovations and purchases of equipment to meet safety, health issues, and code standards. Non-registered service.
Unit measure: Modification under a certain dollar amount.

Transportation: To assist age 60+ individuals to live independently by providing transportation to and from their home to primarily medical appointments and other medical related destinations such as pharmacy, dialysis, physical therapy, laboratory tests, or other related medical errands. May include travel vouchers and transit passes. Non-registered service.
Unit measure: One-way trip

Eligibility

Income: no requirement; efforts must be made to target those eligible participants who are minority, low income, non-English speaking, living alone, isolated and age 75+ with particular attention to low-income minority clients.

Age: age 60+

Other: No charge for Title IIIB Supportive Services. Voluntary contributions are accepted. Assistance to persons having difficulty with one or more ADLs/IADLs.

Federal Guidelines

- Older Americans Act Section 321
- National Aging Program Information System (NAPIS) and State Program Report (SPR)- Reporting requirements for Title III and VII (May 2010)

State Guidelines

- California Code of Regulations, Title 22, Division 1.8, Sections 7100-7155
- CDA MOU
- The CDA Service Category and Data Dictionary is the governing document which defines each Title IIIB Service Category. (July, 2025)

Program Memorandums (www.aging.ca.gov)

- PM 97-02 (P) Data Collection Requirements for Title III and VII State Program Report
- PM 07-02 (P) Transportation Coordination (Federal Executive Order to Maximize Transportation Coordination)
- PM 08-05 (P) Senate Bill (Alquist) Persons with disabilities: care in community settings and hospital discharge planning policies
- PM 10-07 (P) New Services Categories and Data Dictionary Revisions to the California Aging Reporting System Effective July 1, 2010.