



Fiscal Years 2016-2019

**Nutrition Services
Request for Proposals
Issued December 2014**

**FAQ
January 26, 2015**

- 1) Our organization currently receives USDA funding. May we completely sever support from the USDA and newly start nutrition services for the elderly in one of the target areas (funded through AgeOptions)?

If the severed USDA funding was for Adult Day Service (ADS) meals, AgeOptions still will not fund meals for Adult Day Services (even without USDA funding). A proposed program must be for a non-ADS affiliated program.

- 2) Can our organization seek additional funding sources such as city government's funding?

Your organization can use funding from other non-federal sources as part of its Local Cash Match.

- 3) Does local cash match in the Budget Pages need to exclude state and/or federal government supports?

Local Cash match can include state dollars but not federal dollars.

- 4) Does a congregate program need to have transportation services?

There is one question on the C1 Congregate Meals Application that asks the applicant to describe the transportation options available, but AgeOptions does not require that any congregate meal program include transportation service and the Congregate Meal funding cannot pay for the transportation service. If there is no transportation service, the only consequence is a lower score on that one question.

- 5) Typically how many proposals of new providers of congregate meals do you fund?

There is no quota for funding new versus current providers. AgeOptions looks at each applicant for its own strengths as well as how the proposed service area(s) fit into the overall distribution of dollars. If there is a competitive application situation (two applicants proposing the same service in the same service area) AgeOptions makes a determination based on the higher score.

- 6) AgeOptions serves people 60 years and older who live in suburban Cook County. Would our organization qualify for funding? We serve people 55 years and older who live in a residential building we built in South Chicago.

AgeOptions administers funds appropriated under the federal Older

Americans Act (OAA). The Act sets the age of 60 years and older. OAA funds must serve people age 60+ with a few exceptions. (For example, if a client received Home Delivered Meals (HDMs) then their spouse—regardless of the spouse’s age—may also receive HDMs.) If you were interested in operating a nutrition program, the people served would need to meet the age requirement.