Chapter 4
Older Americans Act (OAA) Title IIIB

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DEPARTMENT OF ELDER AFFAIRS PROGRAMS AND SERVICES HANDBOOK

Chapter 4: Older Americans Act (OAA) Title IIIB

Section 1: Overview

A. The purpose of the OAA Title IIIB program is to provide supportive services to enhance the well-being of elders and to help them live independently in their home environment and the community.

Section II: Legal Authority

- Older Americans Act, Title III Grants for State and Community Programs on Aging; Part B—Supportive Services and Senior Centers, Section 321

- Older Americans Act, Title III, Part B, Section 306(b)(2)(A) through (D) 42 U.S.C. 3030d

Section III: Supportive Services Requirements:

A. Priority Supportive Services: The Older Americans Act requires each state to ensure that an adequate proportion of the amount allocated to a PSA for OAA, Title IIIB supportive services be expended to deliver the following three categories of service:

1. **Access Services:** Services such as Transportation, Outreach, Information and Referral, and Case Management;

2. **In-home Services:** Services including Homemaker, Home Health Aide, Home Repair, Companionship, Telephone Reassurance, Chore, Respite and other supportive services for families of elderly victims of Alzheimer's disease and other neurological and organic brain disorders of the Alzheimer's type; and

3. **Legal Assistance:** The area plan must contain assurances that AAAs will give priority to legal assistance related to income, health care, long term care, nutrition, housing, utilities, protective services, defense of guardianship, abuse, neglect, and age discrimination.

B. The AAA must award Title IIIB supportive service dollars to fund the priority areas in Part A above within the PSA in the following minimum funding percentages:
- Access Services - 20 percent
- In-home Services - 8 percent
- Legal Assistance - 3 percent

C. DOEA may waive the percentage funding requirement in Part B above if the AAA

demonstrates that services being furnished in the area are sufficient to meet the need. The procedures required for waiver are set forth in the OAA Section 306(b)(2)(A) through (D).

D. Other services the area agencies may support with Title IIIB funds include the following:

1. Companionship, Counseling, Emergency Alert Response System, Education/Training, Employment, Escort, Housing Improvement, Health Support, Interpreting/Translation, Material Aid, Recreation, Shopping Assistance, or Assurance (Telephone/In-person).

2. Case Management for clients requiring in-home and community-based services such as Adult Day Care, Chore, Homemaker, Home Health Aide, Personal Care, Respite, or Therapies.

3. Acquisition, alteration, renovation, or construction of facilities to serve as multipurpose senior centers. The State of Florida does not utilize Title IIIB funds for this purpose. Funding for these programs is subject to legislative or local appropriation.

Section IV: Program Requirements

A. Title IIIB, Supportive Services, require that service recipients be 60 years of age or older except for Information, Caregiver Training/Support, and Education/Training services, regardless of income, assets, or ability to pay. Although services are provided at no cost, voluntary contributions are accepted.

B. Priority for services must be targeted to low-income older individuals, including low-income minority older individuals, older individuals with limited English proficiency, and older individuals residing in rural areas.