



DEPARTMENT OF ECONOMIC SECURITY

Your Partner For A Stronger Arizona



DAAS
November 13, 2024

Agenda

- Overview of State Unit on Aging (SUA)
 - Roles/Responsibilities
 - Primary Functions and Initiatives
 - Overview of Older Americans Act (OAA) Final Rule
 - Highlights of Updates
 - Implementation
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State Unit on Aging Designation

Federal

Department of Health and Human Services



The Administration for Community Living:
Regional Administrators



State

State Units on Aging



Area Agencies on Aging



Local

Service Providers / Direct Services



State Unit on Aging Primary Functions:

- Conduit to the Administration for Community Living (ACL) within the Department of Health and Human Services
- Cognizant entity for receipt and distribution of federal Older Americans Act funding and associated appropriated state General Fund
- Creating policy for the use of those funds, in accordance with state and federal guidelines
- Contract monitoring of subrecipients of those funds (primarily AAAs)
- Create the state plan on aging, once every 5 years
- Collect and report state performance data on programs for reporting to ACL, state entities, and stakeholders

Arizona's State Unit on Aging

Arizona's State Unit on Aging is housed within the Department of Economic Security, Division of Aging and Adult Services

Division Leadership:

- Rebecca Clayton, Assistant Director, federally-designated State Unit on Aging Director
- Rana Simms, Deputy Assistant Director of Programs
- Jonathan Lucke, Deputy Assistant Director of Operations

Program Leadership:

- Ashley Pascual, Program Administrator
 - Lindsey Bankhead, Deputy Program Administrator
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Primary Initiatives



Older Americans Act Timeline

Older Americans Act
signed into law

1965

1988

OAA Regulations
Updated

OAA Reauthorized

2020

March 2024

The final rule to update
OAA regulations was
published in the Federal
Register

Compliance Date

October 2025



Final Rule Highlights

- State Plan on Aging & Area Plans
 - Clarifies requirements and details requirements for coordination among tribal, state and local programs (Title III and VI coordination)
 - Definitions
 - Improves consistency of definitions, such as greatest social need and greatest economic need
 - Population
 - Requires SUA to define greatest social and economic need and develop a plan for reach those individuals
 - Contracts
 - Requires SUA to establish flexible and streamlined processes for area agencies to receive approval for contracts and commercial relationships
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Final Rule Highlights

- Conflict of Interest
 - Clarifies requirement of certain policies and procedures that state and local AAAs must have.
 - For example, the final rule establishes expectations regarding conflicts of interest
- Legal Assistance Developer
 - Establishes expectations for the legal assistance program (new)
- Nutrition
 - Clarifies that home delivered meals may be provided via home delivery, pick-up, carry out, or drive-thru (direct result of COVID-19 flexibilities that proved beneficial)
- Expands the list of required AAA Advisory Council members

Implementation

- **Effective Date:** March 15, 2024
 - **Compliance Date:** October 1, 2025
 - Responsible for ensuring compliance with all new and modified requirements and clarifying existing requirements
 - Establishing an implementation plan
 - Leading any necessary training with AAAs on implementation
 - Identifying areas that will not meet compliance by the compliance date
 - **Corrective Action Plan (CAP):** State agencies who are unable to comply with the final rule by the October 1, 2025 date will have the ability to submit a CAP to ACL that, if approved, provides additional time to achieve compliance.
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Thank You!