

**Chapter 7**  
**Older Americans Act (OAA) Title III E**

**DEPARTMENT OF ELDER AFFAIRS PROGRAMS AND SERVICES HANDBOOK**

**Chapter 7: Older Americans Act (OAA) Title III E**

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## Chapter 7: Older Americans Act (OAA) Title III E

### **Section 1: Overview**

- A. The purpose of Title III, Part E is to enable AAAs and entities that AAAs contract with, to provide multifaceted systems of support services to the following individuals:
- Family caregivers; and
  - Grandparents or older individuals, 55 years of age or older, who are relative caregivers of children not more than 18 years old or individuals with disabilities.

### **Section II: Legal Authority**

- Older Americans Act, Title III, Part E, Sections 371-376 42 U.S.C. 3030s
- Developmental Disabilities Assistance and Bill of Rights Act, Section 102 42 U.S.C. 6001

### **Section III: Definitions**

1. Child: Individual not more than 18 years old or an individual with a disability.
2. Family Caregiver: Adult family member, or another individual, who is an informal provider of in-home and community care to an older individual.
3. Frailty: The older individual is determined to be functionally impaired because the individual:
  - Is unable to perform at least two activities of daily living without substantial human assistance, including verbal reminding, physical cueing, or supervision; or
  - Due to cognitive or other mental impairment, requires substantial supervision because the individual behaves in a manner that poses a serious health or safety hazard to the individual or to another individual.
4. Grandparent or older individual who is a relative caregiver: Grandparent or step grandparent of a child, or a relative of a child by blood, marriage or adoption who is 55 years old or older, and who meets the following conditions:
  - Lives with the child;
  - Is the primary caregiver of the child because the biological or adoptive parents are unable or unwilling to serve as the primary caregiver for the child; and

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- Has a legal relationship to the child, legal custody or guardianship, or is raising the child informally.

### **Section IV: Caregiver Support Programs/Services**

Caregiver support programs/services shall include the services listed below. Refer to the Appendix A, Services Descriptions and Standards, for a description of each service. The Caregiver Support Services Program components are designated in the Client Information and Registration Tracking System (eCIRTS) as follows:

- A. Caregiver Support Services (OA3E):** The following services are intended to provide direct help to caregivers who provide care for elder recipients (60 and older). These services assist in the areas of health, nutrition, and financial literacy and help caregivers in making decisions and problem solving related to their caregiving roles and responsibilities.

Elder recipients (60 and older) must meet the frailty requirement to be eligible to receive OA3E caregiver respite services as follows:

- Adult Day Care/Adult Day Health Care
- Respite Services (Direct Pay, Facility-Based, and In-Home)

A caregiver of an elder recipient (individual 60 or older who meets the frailty requirement) may receive supplemental services, without receiving respite services.

The frailty requirement for elder recipients (60 and older) does not apply to the following OA3E caregiver services:

- Caregiver Training/Support
- Counseling (Gerontological and Mental Health)
- Education/Training
- Financial Risk Reduction (Assessment and Maintenance)
- Information
- Intake
- Outreach
- Referral/Assistance
- Screening/Assessment
- Transportation

- B. Caregiver Supplemental Services (OA3ES):** At least ten percent (10%), but no more than twenty percent (20%), of the total Title III E funds shall be used to provide supplemental support services. OA3ES supplemental services are

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available to elders aged 60 and older, or grandparents and non-parent relative caregivers, age 55 and older, enrolled in OA3EG (grandparent) caregiver programs. The elder must meet the frailty requirement to be eligible to receive supplemental services under OA3ES.

The frailty requirement does not apply to the OA3EG program recipients. The following services are provided to complement the care provided by caregivers.

- Chore Services
- Housing Improvement
- Legal Assistance
- Material Aid
- Specialized Medical Equipment, Services and Supplies

**C. Grandparent or Non-Parent Relative Support Services (OA3EG):** At least five percent (5%), but no more than ten percent (10 %), of the total Title III E funds shall be used to provide support services to grandparents and older individuals who are relative caregivers. Services for non-parent relative caregivers (55 and older) caring for children under the age of 18 and children aged 18 and older with disabilities designed to help meet their caregiving obligations include:

- Caregiver Training/Support
- Child Day Care
- Counseling (Gerontological and Mental Health)
- Education/Training
- Legal Assistance
- Outreach
- Referral/Assistance
- Screening/Assessment
- Sitter
- Transportation

### **Section V: Population Served and Priority**

**A. Population Served:** Services under a State program shall be provided to:

- Family caregivers; and
- Grandparents and older individuals who are relative caregivers of children not more than 18 years old or individuals with a disability.

**B. Prioritization Within Population Served:** Services under a State program shall give priority to older individuals under the following conditions:

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- Those with greatest social and economic need, paying attention to low-income older individuals, including low-income minority older individuals, older individuals with limited English proficiency, and older individuals residing in rural areas; and
- Those providing care and support to persons, including children, with severe disabilities.