

§ 1321.43

§ 1321.43 Interstate planning and service area.

(a) Before requesting permission of the Commissioner to designate an interstate planning and service area, the Governor of each State shall execute a written agreement that specifies the State agency proposed to have lead responsibility for administering the programs within the interstate planning and service area and lists the conditions, agreed upon by each State, governing the administration of the interstate planning and service area.

(b) The lead State shall request permission of the Commissioner to designate an interstate planning and service area.

(c) The lead State shall submit the request together with a copy of the agreement as part of its State plan or as an amendment to its State plan.

(d) Prior to the Commissioner's approval for States to designate an interstate planning and service area, the Commissioner shall determine that all applicable requirements and procedures in §1321.29 and §1321.33 of this part, shall be met.

(e) If the request is approved, the Commissioner, based on the agreement between the States, increases the allotment of the State with lead responsibility for administering the programs within the interstate area and reduces the allotment(s) of the State(s) without lead responsibility by one of these methods:

(1) Reallotment of funds in proportion to the number of individuals age 60 and over for that portion of the interstate planning and service area located in the State without lead responsibility; or

(2) Reallotment of funds based on the intrastate funding formula of the State(s) without lead responsibility.

§ 1321.45 Transfer between congregate and home-delivered nutrition service allotments.

(a) A State agency, without the approval of the Commissioner, may transfer between allotments up to 30 percent of a State's separate allotments for congregate and home-delivered nutrition services.

(b) A State agency may apply to the Commissioner to transfer from one al-

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lotment to the other a portion exceeding 30 percent of a State's separate allotments for congregate and home-delivered nutrition services. A State agency desiring such a transfer of allotment shall:

(1) Specify the percent which it proposes to transfer from one allotment to the other;

(2) Specify whether the proposed transfer is for the entire period of a State plan or a portion of a plan period; and

(3) Specify the purpose of the proposed transfer.

§ 1321.47 Statewide non-Federal share requirements.

The statewide non-Federal share for State or area plan administration shall not be less than 25 percent of the funds used under this part. All services statewide, including ombudsman services and services funded under Title III-B, C, D, E and F, shall be funded on a statewide basis with a non-Federal share of not less than 15 percent. Matching requirements for individual area agencies are determined by the State agency.

§ 1321.49 State agency maintenance of effort.

In order to avoid a penalty, each fiscal year the State agency, to meet the required non-federal share applicable to its allotments under this part, shall spend under the State plan for both services and administration at least the average amount of State funds it spent under the plan for the three previous fiscal years. If the State agency spends less than this amount, the Commissioner reduces the State's allotments for supportive and nutrition services under this part by a percentage equal to the percentage by which the State reduced its expenditures.

§ 1321.51 Confidentiality and disclosure of information.

(a) A State agency shall have procedures to protect the confidentiality of information about older persons collected in the conduct of its responsibilities. The procedures shall ensure that no information about an order person, or obtained from an order person by a service provider or the State or area

agencies, is disclosed by the provider or agency in a form that identifies the person without the informed consent of the person or of his or her legal representative, unless the disclosure is required by court order, or for program monitoring by authorized Federal, State, or local monitoring agencies.

(b) A State agency is not required to disclose those types of information or documents that are exempt from disclosure by a Federal agency under the Federal Freedom of Information Act, 5 U.S.C. 552.

(c) A State or area agency on aging may not require a provider of legal assistance under this part to reveal any information that is protected by attorney-client privilege.

§ 1321.52 Evaluation of unmet need.

Each State shall submit objectively collected and statistically valid data with evaluative conclusions concerning the unmet need for supportive services, nutrition services, and multipurpose senior centers gathered pursuant to section 307(a)(3)(A) of the Act to the Commissioner. The evaluations for each State shall consider all services in these categories regardless of the source of funding for the services. This information shall be submitted not later than June 30, 1989 and shall conform to guidance issued by the Commissioner.

Subpart C—Area Agency Responsibilities

§ 1321.53 Mission of the area agency.

(a) The Older Americans Act intends that the area agency on aging shall be the leader relative to all aging issues on behalf of all older persons in the planning and service area. This means that the area agency shall proactively carry out, under the leadership and direction of the State agency, a wide range of functions related to advocacy, planning, coordination, inter-agency linkages, information sharing, brokering, monitoring and evaluation, designed to lead to the development or enhancement of comprehensive and coordinated community based systems in, or serving, each community in the planning and service area. These systems shall be designed to assist older

persons in leading independent, meaningful and dignified lives in their own homes and communities as long as possible.

(b) A comprehensive and coordinated community based system described in paragraph (a) of this section shall:

(1) Have a visible focal point of contact where anyone can go or call for help, information or referral on any aging issue;

(2) Provide a range of options;

(3) Assure that these options are readily accessible to all older persons: The independent, semi-dependent and totally dependent, no matter what their income;

(4) Include a commitment of public, private, voluntary and personal resources committed to supporting the system;

(5) Involve collaborative decision-making among public, private, voluntary, religious and fraternal organizations and older people in the community;

(6) Offer special help or targeted resources for the most vulnerable older persons, those in danger of losing their independence;

(7) Provide effective referral from agency to agency to assure that information or assistance is received, no matter how or where contact is made in the community;

(8) Evidence sufficient flexibility to respond with appropriate individualized assistance, especially for the vulnerable older person;

(9) Have a unique character which is tailored to the specific nature of the community;

(10) Be directed by leaders in the community who have the respect, capacity and authority necessary to convene all interested persons, assess needs, design solutions, track overall success, stimulate change and plan community responses for the present and for the future.

(c) The resources made available to the area agency on aging under the Older Americans Act are to be used to finance those activities necessary to achieve elements of a community based system set forth in paragraph (b) of this section. For the purpose of assuring access to information and services for older persons, the area agency