

## ARPA FAQ's

**1. Where did the Vacs IIIB funds go?**

*Update:* ICOA explored the option to utilize the funding to support existing statewide vaccine efforts as feedback from AAAs demonstrated little need for vaccine transportation and vaccine assistance. The funding can't be utilized for Statewide efforts. The funding has been added to the budget workbook and provided to the AAAs along with the ACL FAQs.

**2. What is the feasibility of starting this September 1? (Pg 8. #3)**

The program start date was designed around the ARPA funding and meal counts as indicated on the TG. The AAA should provide the meal site provider with an additional congregate meal roster by August 1.

**3. Technical guidance under ARPA-E is the same as item 3 on page 5 under ARPA-B. Is item 6 correct? (Page 11; #6)**

Yes, that is correct.

**4. Does the ARPA State Service Match funding have to follow the technical guidance rules or can we use that for ongoing activities? (Pg 2; 5)**

The ARPA State Service Match must follow the technical guidance rules.

**5. Admin cost are assigned for Area Plan administration expenditure. Is this the same as the allowable Admin expenses authorized in the ICOA/AAA Contract? (Pg 2; #2)**

Yes

**6. Well my question is why did they put 4 years of funding in a one-year budget; and what are the one-year numbers. Given that we've already written contracts using some of the ARPA funding, is there any latitude on the technical guidance? (General)**

The Year one numbers were provided by on 7/22. After the Webinar, AAAs can reach out to ICOA discuss organizational situations.

**7. My other question is why isn't there any ARPA-D technical guidance when we have ARPA-D funding in our budget? Is our budget wrong? (General)**

Per Katie Bell email on 7/22, the ARPA – Title III D has been removed from the budget.

**8. It states funding may be utilized for homemaker, but then closes with saying we cannot utilize it for homemaker. What are the parameters for homemaker? (Pg 5, #3)**

ARPA funding is not for routine re-occurring homemaker. It should be used to ensure clients can remain safely in their homes.

**9. Can transportation be utilized for non-vaccine related trips? (Pg. 6, #4)**

Yes – ARPA funding seeks to reduce social isolation and assist clients to re-engage in their communities.

**10. Are their budget parameters on the \$2.00 a meal rate? On the previous COVID funds we only allowed them to spend the additional funds on certain things. We will need the parameters for the additional \$2.00. (if any)**

The co-pay is a reimbursement for dine-in meals served. There are no additional parameters.

**11. Can ICOA define a new nutrition program in the TG?**

ICOA can respond to the COVID-19 pandemic to ensure services are delivered to Older Idahoans. In some instances, a TG is the most expedient way to provide guidance to AAAs regarding services and service delivery. Standard nutrition program requirements have not changed or been redefined. Curbside meals are considered a service delivery method under the nutrition program.

In 2020, the Administration for Community Living (ACL) allowed a COVID specific curbside service delivery method. Initially, ACL requested all states to standardize the unit as congregate. ARPA funding is required to further detail and delineate units between curbside and congregate meals. ICOA has issued the TG.13.2 to detail the requirements to AAAs regarding service unit data. ICOA has also implemented changes to the GetCare system to allow the service unit data entry.

**12. Can I use ARPA funding to hire I&A staff?**

I&A staff are an integral part of the aging network. Each AAA is structured differently to meet the local PSA needs. Hiring I&A staff to conduct the activities provided in the TG is allowable. For example, the AAA may have I&A staff conducting options counseling.

**13. Can I put the ARPA funding toward a program my AAA is already providing and is listed in the TG?**

Yes, ARPA funding can be used to expand and enhance existing AAA programs included within the TG.

**14. Why did ICOA choose a \$2.00 copay given increasing rates on food and gas?**

ICOA designated priority areas such as modernization, sanitation, and returning to the Senior Centers. The \$2.00 co-pay is specific to dine-in meals as an incentive. The co-pay was established by taking into consideration funds available, time frames, and average meals served. AAAs are required to consider cost of commodities when conducting a market analysis to establish base meal reimbursement rates.

**15. As the Delta variant increases COVID-19 cases, will ICOA revise the \$2.00 co-pay requirement.**

If Senior Centers begin to close across the state, ICOA will revise the TG accordingly.