

Frequently Asked Questions

Food Providers



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On April 24, 2020, Governor Gavin Newsom announced the launch of a first-in-the-nation **Great Plates Delivered program**. The program is designed to support adults 65 and older and adults 60-64 who are at high-risk from COVID-19, in staying home and staying healthy by delivering three nutritious meals a day, and also provide essential economic stimulus to local businesses and workers struggling to stay afloat during the COVID crisis. The following **Frequently Asked Questions** provide guidance to any individual or local community impacted by this program and choosing to participate.

Program Overview

How does the program work?

Aging and Adult Services will work with multiple local food providers to deliver three (3) nutritious daily meals to qualified individuals enrolled in the program. Each community conducts outreach to senior centers and senior populations to enroll qualified individuals in need. The program is locally managed to ensure the needs of diverse communities within California are addressed individually.

Which food providers qualify for participation in the program?

Aging and Adult Services determines which local food providers (e.g., restaurants, kitchens) are eligible to participate in the program. Selection is contingent on food provider's ability to meet volume and nutritional standards; source local produce/meats (if able); meet cultural needs; and prioritize local jobs, worker retention, worker health and safety, and standards of equity and fairness in employment practices, wages, hiring, and promotion. 100% of meals must be supplied by a food provider not currently participating in a state or federal meal service program.

How long will the program run?

The program runs until June 10, 2020, which is the timeframe currently approved by FEMA. The state intends on requesting an extension for the Great Plates Delivered program.

Application and Meal Delivery Process

How can I apply to participate in the program as a local food provider?

To participate, local food providers must contact Aging and Adult Services. The department establishes a streamlined process to apply to the program, including a screening process to ensure food providers meet program criteria.

Are there any meal requirements?

Yes, each meal, at a minimum, must meet the following requirements:

- Breakfast low in sodium, no sugary drinks (<24 calories /8 oz. and of fruit juice, must be only 100 percent fruit juice allowed); and
- Lunch / dinner a piece of fresh fruit or vegetable on each dish, and low in sodium, no sugary drinks (<24 calories /8 oz. and of fruit juice, must be only 100 percent fruit juice allowed).

How are meals delivered?

Aging and Adult Services determines how meals are delivered (through food providers, school bus drivers, delivery platform networks, etc.). Individuals delivering meals are subject to background checks.

How will I be reimbursed for meal deliveries?

Aging and Adult Services determines program payment mechanisms.

