

# Missouri State Plan on Aging Information Sheet

## What is the Older Americans Act?

It is an act passed by Congress in 1965. Although older individuals may receive services under many other federal programs, today the Older Americans Act (OAA) is considered to be a major vehicle for the organization and delivery of social and nutrition services to this group and their caregivers.<sup>1</sup> The OAA currently supports a wide array of programs and services, including information and referral, congregate and home-delivered meals, health and wellness programs, in-home care, transportation, elder abuse prevention, caregiver support and adult day care.<sup>2</sup> To be eligible to receive a formula grant under Section 307 (a) of the OAA of 1965, as amended, each State Unit on Aging (SUA) is required to develop a State Plan on Aging that conforms to requirements and priorities outlined by the Assistant Secretary for Aging.

## What is the Missouri State Plan on Aging?

It is a four year plan, created by the Missouri SUA. This plan is required by the OAA and addresses the needs of older Missourians with a focus on those with greatest economic and social needs. The current plan runs through September 30, 2023. The new plan will run from October 1, 2023 through September 30, 2027.

## What does the Missouri State Plan on Aging do?

It sets goals, objectives, strategies, and outcomes for aging services in Missouri. This plan guides the area plans for each area agency on aging (AAA) in Missouri. This in turn, guides the aging services provided in Missouri. An AAA is a public or private nonprofit agency designated by a state to address the needs and concerns of all older persons at the regional and local levels.<sup>3</sup> There are ten AAAs providing OAA services in Missouri.

## What information must be included in the Missouri State Plan on Aging?

The Administration on Community Living (ACL) provides guidance for the State Plan on Aging. This guidance requires that the plan includes information under five key areas. These key areas are OAA core programs, COVID-19, equity, home and community based services, and caregiving. ACL also requires that the SUA seek out input to guide the creation of the plan.

## How can I have a voice in Missouri's State Plan on Aging?

The best way to have a voice in Missouri's State Plan on Aging is to access the website at <https://health.mo.gov/seniors/state-plan-aging.php>. On this site, you can:

- Complete a survey to provide input on the plan.
- Review the federal guidance from ACL.
- Review the current Missouri State Plan on Aging.
- Review the Older Americans Act.



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<sup>1</sup> <https://acl.gov/about-acl/authorizing-statutes/older-americans-act>

<sup>2</sup> <https://www.usaging.org/olderamericansact>

<sup>3</sup> <https://acl.gov/programs/aging-and-disability-networks/area-agencies-aging>