



Future-Readying the California Aging Network: AAA Feedback Survey

NOTE: This is a PDF printer-friendly version of the survey and is not intended to be completed and submitted. Please complete and submit the online survey.

INTRODUCTION

California's demographic shift towards an older, more diverse population requires statewide systems and local structures to:

- Offer and integrate complex social, medical, cognitive, and behavioral health supports.
- Respond to the needs of a growing number of older adults, people with disabilities, and family caregivers.
- Affirm the important values of equity, inclusion, and belonging.

To prepare for this shift, the California Department of Aging (CDA) is undergoing an effort to “future-ready” the state’s aging network for changes in consumer, community, and payor needs and expectations. This important work first started with the Governor’s Master Plan for Aging. Since then, the department has been guided by recommendations from the CA 2030 project, new direction in the Administration for Community Living final Older Americans Act rule, and pending state legislation that collectively calls for updates to California’s outdated policies and practices. CDA is in the beginning stages of reviewing and making updates in the following areas:

1. **PSA & AAA Designations:** Planning and Service Area (PSA) and Area Agency on Aging (AAA) designation and de-designation criteria and processes.
2. **Core Programs and Services:** A set of core older adult and caregiver programs and services with performance measures to be made available across California.
3. **Intrastate Funding Formula (IFF):** The factors, weights, base funding, and other aspects of the formulas and allocation methodologies that dictate how state and federal administrative and programmatic funds are distributed.

PURPOSE

This survey offers all 33 AAAs the opportunity to provide input and feedback regarding the three focus areas above. Your responses will help inform regulatory and policy design and decision-making beginning in 2025. While your responses are linked to your AAA, any survey data and results shared or reported with stakeholders outside of CDA will be de-identified.

You can review the content in this survey and save your progress before you submit your responses.

Please submit your survey responses by Tuesday, October 8th at 5:00 PM. Your responses to this survey are not anonymous. If you want to complete an anonymous survey, you can create your own login credentials. If you have any questions or concerns, please contact alison@collaborativeconsulting.net. We greatly appreciate your time and input.



YOUR ORGANIZATION

Your organization: _____

Your name: _____

PART I. PSA AND AAA DESIGNATIONS

We are committed to ensuring that our Planning and Service Areas (PSAs) and Area Agency on Aging (AAA) designations effectively support the current and future needs of older adults and caregivers throughout the state. We are evaluating the criteria and processes for these designations.

PSA DESIGNATIONS

1. Should minimum population requirements be considered for planning and service areas (PSAs)? Please explain your answer.
 - Yes
 - No
 - Unsure
2. If a minimum population requirement for PSAs existed, what would a reasonable population size be?
3. How well does the current size of your PSA (geographic and/or population) effectively meet the current needs of older residents and caregivers? Please explain your answer.
 - Excellent
 - Very good
 - Good
 - Fair
 - Poor
4. How well do you anticipate the current size of your PSA (geographic and/or population) will effectively meet the future needs of older residents and caregivers? Please explain your answer.
 - Excellent
 - Very good
 - Good
 - Fair
 - Poor
5. Do you think the boundaries of your PSA should change? If so, how? Please Explain your answer.
 - Yes
 - No
 - Unsure
6. What areas, populations, or communities within your PSA are under-served? Please specify.

AAA DESIGNATIONS

7. To be designated as a AAA in California, entities must already demonstrate the following (per the California Code of Regulations):

- Financial records demonstrate the capability to provide programs for older individuals.
- An organizational structure demonstrating the ability to manage programs for older individuals.
- The number and qualifications of the staff demonstrate that the staff is adequate in number and trained to administer programs for older individuals.
- Visibility to be recognized for its leadership role by the residents in the PSA.
- An organizational level of autonomy that permits it to impact programs affecting older individuals in the PSA and to carry out its planning and advocacy functions.

Please share your thoughts and suggestions on how AAAs should demonstrate the above requirements and expectations in the future:

AAA Capacity Indicators

Financial Records	
Organizational Structure	
Number and Qualifications of Staff	
Visibility	
Level of Autonomy	

8. In what ways, if any, do you think PSA designation criteria and/or processes should change for the future? If you propose new, revised, or deleted criteria, please specify the criteria and the reason(s) to make a change.
9. In what ways, if any, do you think AAA designation criteria and/or processes should change for the future? If you propose new, revised, or deleted criteria, please specify the criteria and the reason(s) to make a change.
10. What questions, comments, or concerns do you have about PSA and/or AAA designation criteria and processes?

PART II. CORE PROGRAMS AND SERVICES

AAAs play a critical role in supporting older adults and their caregivers. We are exploring the possibility of requiring AAAs to make available a core set of services to ensure consistent consumer access and quality throughout the state.



Core Programs and Services

Based on consumer demand and most AAAs offering these services, a draft list of core services has been outlined:

- Nutrition Services
- Enhanced Information and Assistance (I&A)
- Legal Services
- Care/Case Management
- Caregiver Services and Supports
- Transportation

11. How would you rank these six types of services regarding consumer demand in your PSA?

12. Are any of the six core services not appropriate to make available to consumers across the state? Which? And why?

13. Please indicate which of the following service types you currently make available in your PSA, and in which county or counties each service is available.

Available in the following county/counties:

Care / Case Management	
Caregiver Services & Supports	
Enhanced I&A	
Legal Services	
Nutrition Services	
Transportation	

14. It is important to demonstrate that the network's efforts contribute to positive outcomes. This helps to illustrate its direct impact and the need for continuous investment in the network. To strengthen the ability to demonstrate impact, CDA is exploring process, output, and outcome performance measures.

Process measures emphasize *activities*, output measures track *deliverables*, and outcome measures assess *impact*.

What performance measures do you think could be most important to capture within each of the proposed core services areas?

Process, Output, and/or Outcome Measures to Consider:

Care / Case Management	
Caregiver Services & Supports	
Enhanced I&A	
Legal Services	
Nutrition Services	
Transportation	

15. In what ways could AAAs be recognized by CDA for demonstrating high performance in the future?
16. Other than the six services above, which, if any, other services should be made available across the entire state? Why?
17. What questions or comments do you have about core programs and services?

PART III: FUNDING FORMULA

All states must develop and use an intrastate funding formula (IFF) to distribute funds to AAAs. While the US Administration for Community Living (ACL) sets the broad requirements for the IFF, each state can design a formula using valid and reliable data that aligns with the greatest social and economic needs of older populations. Every state is expected to periodically review and, if necessary, update its IFF to ensure it aligns with current and emerging priority need areas. Your feedback will help inform how a future IFF can best direct resources to who and where they are most needed.

18. Do you think California should have the same factors and weights used for all funding (i.e., federal and state funds)? Please explain your answer.
 - Yes
 - No
 - Unsure
19. How well does CDA's current IFFs adequately reach California's diverse populations equitably? Please explain your answer.
 - Excellent
 - Very good
 - Good
 - Fair
 - Poor

20. Are there any current factors in the IFF that you feel should be revised or removed? Please explain your answer.
- Yes
 - No
 - Unsure
21. What are the priority populations of focus that you have identified in your latest community needs assessment / Area Plan?
22. Which, if any, of the following factors do you think should be considered for inclusion in California's next IFF? (please select up to 5)
- Rural
 - Land Mass in Square Miles
 - Number of Counties in PSA
 - Population density
 - Ages 50+
 - Ages 60+
 - Ages 60-75
 - Ages 65+
 - Ages 75+
 - Ages 75-84
 - Ages 80+
 - Ages 85+
 - Average Life Expectancy
 - Racial or Ethnic Minority
 - Racial Minority only (not Hispanic)
 - Ethnic Minority (Hispanic)
 - Low-income Racial or Ethnic Minority
 - At / Below 100% of Federal Poverty Level
 - At / Below 125% of Federal Poverty Level
 - At / Below 150% of Federal Poverty Level
 - At / Below 200% of Federal Poverty Level
 - At / Below 300% of Federal Poverty Level
 - Disabled: Difficulty with any of the following: hearing, visual, cognitive, ambulatory, self-care, independent living
 - Medically Underserved
 - Medicaid Eligible
 - Limited English Speaking
 - Older Relative Caregivers
 - Divorced, Separated, or Widowed
 - Never Married
 - Lives Alone
 - Other (please specify)
23. What is working well regarding the state (\$100k) and federal (\$50k) administrative base funding?
24. Do you think all AAAs should all receive the same amount of base funding? Please explain your answer.
- Yes
 - No
 - Unsure
25. Should California introduce a base funding scheme for program funds? Please explain your answer.
- Yes
 - No
 - Unsure
26. In what ways should the base funding scheme be changed?



27. Should changes be made to the hold harmless policies? Please explain your answer.

- Yes
- No
- Unsure

28. Should changes be made to the maintenance of effort policy? Please explain your answer.

- Yes
- No
- Unsure

29. Should there be formulaic changes to year-end fiscal carry-over (unspent funds / one-time only funds)? Please explain your answer.

- Yes
- No
- Unsure

30. What questions or comments do you have about the funding formula?

31. What other questions, comments, or concerns do you have?