

The responses below are based on the Department's best position at the time that the statement was made, and do not necessarily constitute the final position of the Department.

Intrastate Funding Formula Development

- 1. At a minimum, in the spirit of the OAA (funding requirements for legal services, I&A, and access), there is a level of local control. There is a concern that the State would set and determine the minimum standards instead of local communities. This would create a shift, and local entities would have to tell their providers that they no longer meet standards. How will local control, which is part of the OAA, still be present?**
 - These are the discussions we want to have during the May webinar.
- 2. Would the \$250K considered for administrative funding come from the IFF formula?**
 - Currently, \$50K is provided by federal funds and \$100K from state general funds. CDA is exploring an additional \$100K to be provided by federal funds, increasing the total base to \$250K for all AAAs.
 - In addition to the \$250k base funding, any remaining federal funding that can go towards administration will be based on factors and weights.

PSA and AAA Designation and De-Designation Criteria

- 3. Please clarify the 100,000-population number for a new PSA. Is it the total population or the older adult population?**
 - Total population, not older adult population.
- 4. Have you considered a competitive process for the new 100k population minimum PSA threshold to become an AAA? If a county wants to have a AAA, does an existing AAA have the ability to compete?**
 - Under current regulations, if an entity applies to change a PSA boundary or serve as a AAA provider, it will submit an application. The process would be subject to a public comment period, during which other entities can respond with concerns or questions. Under current regulations, an existing provider could step in and present their business case.
 - On the other hand, if we design a process where we open PSA boundary and AAA changes once every four or ten years, then certainly new providers and existing providers could again submit applications, and we would use the new criteria we are working on establishing now to determine who is best suited to serve as the provider.
 - Under the law of right to first refusal, local governments have the right to raise their hand first to operate a AAA. However, they would still have to show the financial capabilities, organizational structure, and provider network to support their business case.
- 5. Can you give us examples of the special circumstances for a county with a population under 100,000 interested in applying to become an AAA?**
 - The under 100,000 population threshold is a relatively new concept so far introduced by several other State Units on Aging (e.g., CO, TX, NC, etc.). We haven't defined this process in California, but it would be like our existing process: apply and then submit a business case for why the PSA boundary makes sense even though it falls below the 100,000 population threshold.

- 6. Other states have looked at redrawing boundaries every 4 years; how do those states manage their providers?**
 - Other state statutes allow for redrawing (e.g., Georgia and Texas), but it doesn't necessarily require it. More research is needed, but in general, the process is that there is a public notice to apply as a provider, there are instructions on how to go about that process, and then other entities can apply, like non-profits or units of government. In all cases, the State would look at the strength of the business case and then either move forward or reject a PSA boundary change.
- 7. Would CDA entertain an application for a PSA and/or AAA designation from a for-profit?**
 - Traditionally it has been nonprofits and local units of government as set forth in 42 U.S.C.A. § 3025, which states in relevant part, "the State agency shall... designate for each such area after consideration of the views offered by the unit or units of general purpose local government in such area, a public or private nonprofit agency or organization as the area agency on aging for such area."
- 8. In a multi-county PSA, would a county with a population over 100,000 be allowed to apply for designation if it leaves the remaining part of the PSA under 100,000?**
 - CDA would need to examine the strength of the business case. Federal guidelines require that the department explore the impacts of neighboring PSAs and AAAs to see if harm was caused to other populations served.

Statewide Services and Performance Measures

- 9. Why are HICAP and Ombudsman services still missing in the service categories, even though every PSA and AAA has them and should have been added to the core list?**
 - We are not omitting them; these are just the ones we are focusing on. HICAP is being covered under HICAP modernization, where we want to understand needs and gaps and then set up performance metrics. For the Ombudsman, we aren't looking to make any changes to it. Over the last year, there has been new performance monitoring with the Ombudsman to address gaps. Both are already statewide services available in all 58 counties.
- 10. What specific in-home services are you identifying in the Data Dictionary?**
 - This will be addressed in the May webinar.
- 11. In terms of minimum percentages, is CDA considering a new baseline for Legal and Access services (in relation to minimum percentage allocation)? Would the baselines be different for different services?**
 - We are still researching the data points and will bring this to the May webinar.
- 12. Will the adequate proportion requirements be reviewed as part of the minimum allocations?**
 - Yes, we will be looking at all angles of this.
- 13. In addition to determining statewide services, on an administrative side, are there any considerations for branding programs for uniformity and program recognition?**

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- CDA has discussed this in future planning so that someone can recognize what's available as they move counties. We will have more to say about this as we progress with our standards.

14. Will we require a lot more data gathering? We are losing contractors because the reporting requirements make the money too expensive.

- Our goal is to leverage existing data. For example, if we were going to perform a cost-effectiveness measure related to nutrition, we would know the current expenditure data and number of meals served, so we could create a metric from that. As much as possible, we want to lean on existing data as opposed to creating or collecting new data.