



Riverside County Office on Aging Program Guide

TITLE III C - NUTRITION PROGRAM ELIGIBILITY SCREENING CRITERIA

Purpose The purpose of the Office on Aging Nutrition Program is to provide free meal services to assist older individuals in the County of Riverside to live independently, by promoting better health through improved nutrition. Critical to this program are efforts to reduce senior isolation, through efforts coordinated with nutrition-related supportive services. *[Nutrition Guide - Title 22 CA Code of Regulations]*

Policy **Effective July 1, 2021, Nutrition Screening** shall consider the factors identified in this guide to determine eligibility to receive services at congregate sites or in the individual's home. Other additional factors may not be used to deny or approve eligibility for meals. Office on Aging staff and nutrition vendors shall establish procedures to comply with the criteria below and ensure the accuracy of its application. An eligible individual who receives a meal shall be given the opportunity to contribute to the cost of the meal, and shall be provided the voluntary process to do so.

Eligibility Criteria

Congregate Meals (C1)

- Age 60 or older who requests a meal service at an approved nutrition vendor site

Home-Delivered Meals (C2)

- Age 60 or older who is frail and homebound due to illness, disability, or isolation
- Live-in spouse or caregiver of a C2-client (regardless of age or condition), if an assessment concludes that it is in the best interest of the homebound C2-client
- Disabled person (regardless of age) who resides with an adult age 60 or older

Priority

- Home-Delivered Meals (HDM C2) shall prioritize an individual age 60 or older who is homebound due to illness, disability, or isolation

Wait List

When there is no available HDM C2 slot *at the time of determination*, eligible individuals shall be

- Placed in a wait list for future availability
- Evaluated for alternative resources that address nutrition and other special needs
- Reviewed for placement in newly opened C2 slots

Quality Review

Vendor wait lists shall be provided to Office on Aging (OOA) on a quarterly basis. OOA staff shall make safety calls to individuals on the wait list to evaluate:

- Change(s) in condition(s)
- Risk and safety concerns
- Program service alternatives
- Continued placement in the Nutrition Program Wait List(s)