

17—6.16 (231) Requirements for service providers.

6.16(1) Contributions. The AAA shall consult with the relevant service providers and older individuals in the PSA to determine the best method for accepting voluntary contributions. As established by contract with the AAA, each service provider, including an AAA providing direct service, shall:

a. Provide each older individual with a voluntary opportunity to contribute to the cost of the service by displaying a suggested contribution schedule that takes into consideration income ranges of eligible individuals in local communities;

b. Clearly inform each recipient that there is no obligation to contribute and that the contribution is purely voluntary;

c. Protect the privacy and confidentiality of each older individual with respect to the person's contributions;

d. Utilize appropriate procedures to safeguard and account for all contributions against loss, mishandling or theft by obtaining bonding for all employees and volunteers in accordance with instructions issued by the department in an IAPI;

e. Use all contributions to expand the service for which such contribution is given. Nutrition service providers shall use all contributions to increase the number of meals served.

6.16(2) Failure to contribute. A provider that receives department funds may not deny any older individual a service because the person will not or cannot contribute to the cost.

6.16(3) Obtain views of older individuals. Each provider shall utilize procedures determined by the AAA for obtaining the views of participants about the services they receive. A report of procedures utilized and findings shall be issued by the AAA within six months of the signing of the contract.

6.16(4) Seek other sources of funding. Prior to requesting Title III funding, service providers shall demonstrate efforts to seek funds from other federal, state, and local sources.

6.16(5) Compliance by service providers. The AAA shall incorporate in its contract with each service provider an assurance that funds are used in compliance with federal guidelines.