

441—228.2(231) Eligibility. Older individuals and informal caregivers are eligible for Supporting Older Americans Act services.

228.2(1) General eligibility. Eligibility requirements for services as set forth in Title III of the federal Act and 45 CFR 1321 as amended to October 1, 2025, are as follows.

a. Older individual. An older individual is a person aged 60 or older.

b. Caregivers of older individuals. A family member, or another individual, who is aged 18 or older and is an informal provider of in-home and community care to:

(1) An older individual or

(2) A person of any age with Alzheimer’s disease or a disease or related disorder with neurological and organic brain dysfunction as defined in the federal Act.

c. Older relative caregivers. An individual who is aged 55 or older and lives with, is the informal provider of in-home and community care to, and is the primary caregiver for a child or an individual with a disability.

(1) In the case of an older relative caregiver for a child, the older relative caregiver:

1. Is the grandparent, step-grandparent, or other older relative (other than the parent) by blood, marriage, or adoption of the child;
2. Is the primary caregiver of the child because the biological or adoptive parents are unable or unwilling to serve as the primary caregivers of the child; and
3. Has a legal relationship to the child, such as legal custody, adoption, or guardianship, or is raising the child informally.

(2) In the case of an older relative caregiver for an individual with a disability, the older relative caregiver is the parent, grandparent, step-grandparent, or other older relative by blood, marriage, or adoption of the individual with a disability.

228.2(2) Nutrition services. Eligibility for nutrition services as set forth in Title III, Part C, of the federal Act includes older individuals and their spouses regardless of age, volunteers during meal hours, and individuals with disabilities who are not older individuals but who live with an older individual or reside in housing facilities occupied primarily by older individuals and at which congregate nutrition services are provided.

228.2(3) Elder abuse prevention and awareness. An older individual is eligible for elder abuse prevention and awareness activities if the older individual has experienced elder abuse or neglect or is at risk for elder abuse or neglect. The older individual cannot be a current resident in a “nursing facility” as defined in Iowa Code section 135C.1(15).

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