

Chapter 8 Elderly Nutrition Program State Policies & Waitlists

Prior to implementation of a waitlist for seniors to receive meals, several Dane County meal program policies and practices will need to be discontinued as per the Federal/State Elder Nutrition Program Policies below.

- Volunteers under age 60 who perform nutrition program-related duties as part of their job description may be offered a congregate meal on a donation basis if doing so will not deprive an older individual of a meal. (We have a policy of allowing this since 2004*)
- Staff under age 60 who perform nutrition program-related duties as part of their job description may be offered a congregate meal on a donation basis if doing so will not deprive an older adult of a meal. (We have a policy of allowing this since 2004*)
- Non-elder Disabled Adults Living Alone in the community may be offered a home delivered or congregate meal on a donation basis as long as sufficient funds are available to serve older adults. (AAA Nutrition Director must approve a waiver on an individual basis. We currently have 1 individual on a waiver.)
- An informal caregiver (not spouse or domestic partner) may be offered a meal on a donation basis if they reside with and accompany the eligible older adult to the dining center, or, in the case of home delivered meals, if an assessment concludes that participation is in the best interest of eligible older adult if doing so will not deprive an older adult of a meal. (Has been permitted by AAA Nutrition Director on a case-by-case basis. Aware of 1 individual at present*.)
- Home Delivered Meals are required to be available 5 days per week. (Dane County offers them up to 7 days per week, predominately in the City of Madison-99% of weekend meals. These weekend meals account for over 10,000 meals per year.)

* These 3 exceptions allowed by Dane County accounted for a total of 3,141 meals in 2016, with contributions for these meals being \$12,644. The number of meals estimated for 2017, based on actual use through May, is 4,320 meals, for a total of approximately \$16,000 in donations.