



State of South Carolina
Department on Aging

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Governor

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Director

PROGRAM INSTRUCTION FOR: TITLE III&VI COORDINATION POLICY

INFORMATION MEMORANDUM FOR: Area Agencies on Aging

SUBJECT: PROGRAM INSTRUCTION (PI) for TITLE III&VI COORDINATION POLICY

DATE: August 10, 2026

AAA COMPLIANCE DATE: July 1, 2027

TITLE III&VI COORDINATION POLICY	POLICY NUMBER
REFERENCE(S): 45 CFR 1321.53	
RELEASE DATE: July 1, 2026	AAA COMPLIANCE DATE: July 1, 2027

Policy Statement

The Older Americans Act establishes legal obligations for the State Unit on Aging, AAAs and service providers to serve American Indians, Alaska Natives, and Native Hawaiian elders throughout South Carolina. Currently the only federally recognized tribe in South Carolina is the Catawba Indian Nation. The OAA also requires state units on aging, AAAs, service providers and Title VI grantees to coordinate programs under Title III and Title VI. While the Catawba Indian Nation reservation is located in the Catawba planning and service area, tribal members can live anywhere in the state and beyond. Coordination and outreach are required across the entire state for this requirement to reach both members of the Catawba Indian Nation, as well as to serve American Indians, Alaska

Natives, and Native Hawaiian elders in non-federally recognized tribes. Federal rules require state units on aging to have policies and procedures in place to identify the following:

1. How the State's aging network, including AAAs and service providers, will provide outreach to Tribal elders and family caregivers regarding services for which they might be eligible under Title III and/or Title VII;
2. The communication opportunities the State agency will make available to Title VI programs, including technical assistance on how to apply for Title III and other funding opportunities, meetings, email distribution lists, presentations, and public hearings;
3. The methods for collaboration on and sharing of program information and changes, including coordinating with AAAs and service providers where applicable;
4. How Title VI programs may refer individuals who are eligible for Title III and/or Title VII services;
5. How services will be provided in a culturally appropriate and trauma informed manner; and
6. Opportunities to serve on advisory councils, workgroups, and boards, including AAA advisory councils as set forth in 1321.63.

Coordination needs to occur between AAAs and Title VI grantees in their PSA as well as for AAAs to serve American Indian elders living in their respective PSAs who are unaffiliated with a Tribal nation in South Carolina. The goal of meaningful coordination is providing access to services and avoiding duplication in services.

SUA Responsibility

SCDOA will establish a process for ongoing Tribal consultation to promote active opportunities for communication and collaboration with Title VI grantees related to Title III and other funding opportunities as well as key meetings, presentations, workgroups, or public hearings occurring in their geographic area.

Regularly occurring opportunities for communication include the following:

- Grant Announcements, to include, but not limited to:
 - Permanent Improvement Project
 - Eldercare Trust Fund
 - Alzheimer's Resource Coordination Center
- Committee Openings, to include, but not limited to:
 - State Committee on Respite
 - Social Connections Task Force
 - Advisory Committees

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- Days of Recognition, to include, but not limited to:
 - Advocacy Days
 - Senior Day
 - Emergency Management updates, to include, but not limited to:
 - Weather-related emergencies
 - Senior PREP
 - Planning for Emergency response

AAA Responsibility

AAAs are strongly encouraged to connect with organizations serving American Indian elders across South Carolina as well as with Title VI grantees.

AAAs must annually provide Title VI grantees, Catawba Indian Nation, with the names and contact information for service providers offering Title III services, as well as a description of those services, in order to assist with referrals for individuals who are eligible for Title III and/or VII services.

On an annual basis, AAAs should share contact information with Title VI grantees located in their PSA to help keep up-to-date on key staff contacts.

AAAs are strongly encouraged to invite Title VI grantees to serve on their advisory council, governing boards, and any special committees and workgroups.

AAAs are encouraged to meet with Catawba Indian Nation organizations in their PSA at least annually to share information about programs, services, and future plans. AAAs are encouraged to include service provider representatives in these meetings and solicit input about how to make services more culturally responsive and trauma-informed.

AAAs must ensure that Title VI grantees (members of the Catawba Indian Nation) are able to participate in the following Family Caregiver Support Program services at no cost: Caregiver Training, Support Groups, and Individual Counseling.

See also: (related/cross-referenced policies and/or forms – use hyperlinks)

Emergency Preparedness and Disaster Relief Policy



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