



PUBLIC HEARING NOTICE

OLDER AMERICANS ACT NUTRITION PROGRAM: MEALS ELIGIBLE FOR PAYMENT

ODA proposes to amend rule 173-4-02 of the Administrative Code rule to comply with 45 CFR 1321.87(a), which the U.S. Dept. of Health and Human Services (HHS) adopted on February 14, 2024. A significant change regards being homebound as a reason for needing home-delivered meals. Before February 14, 2024, 45 CFR 1321.69 required prioritizing home-delivered meals for homebound consumers. Effective February 14, 2024, HHS (1) replaced 45 CFR 1321.69 with 45 CFR 1321.83 and (2) established new standards for nutrition services in 45 CFR 1321.87. These new HHS rules no longer establish such prioritization. Instead, they allow considering whether a consumer is able to leave the home unassisted when determining eligibility.

ODA will conduct a public hearing on this rule at the following place, date, and time:

Place: **Rhodes Tower, Room 452**
30 E Broad St
Columbus, OH 43215

Date: **September 4, 2025**

Time: **9:30AM**

Any person may participate in person or online.

If in person, please understand that the building's security staff will require any visitor to the building to register at the security desk by showing a government-issued photo identification (e.g., a driver's license), pass through a metal detector, and allow belongings to be inspected. Please arrive early enough to complete this registration process before the hearing begins. Participants may find area parking at [street meters](#) and area parking garages, including the [Statehouse Underground Parking Garage](#).

If online, [click here to join the meeting](#) via Microsoft Teams.

Any person may email written testimony to rules@age.ohio.gov before the day of the hearing in lieu of presenting testimony at the hearing, whether in person or online.

Any person who testifies at the public hearing will receive a written response if the person also provides ODA with their name, email address, and a written version of their testimony before 5:00PM on the day of the hearing. A person may email this information to rules@age.ohio.gov.

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Please email Helena Carter, ODA's ADA coordinator, at hcarter@age.ohio.gov no later than 7 business days before the hearing to request a reasonable accommodation due to a disability.

Please email ODA's rules and policy administrator at rules@age.ohio.gov with any other questions about this hearing.