## 256.9752 SENIOR NUTRITION PROGRAMS.

Subdivision 1. **Program goals.** It is the goal of all area agencies on aging and senior nutrition programs to support the physical and mental health of older adults living in the community by:

(1) promoting nutrition programs that serve older adults in their homes and communities;

(2) providing, within the limit of funds available, the support services that will enable each older adult to access nutrition programs in the most cost-effective and efficient manner; and

(3) coordinating with health and long-term care systems, emergency preparedness systems, and other systems and stakeholders that support the health and wellness of older adults.

Subd. 1a. **Food delivery support account; appropriation.** (a) A food delivery support account is established in the special revenue fund. The account consists of funds under section 174.49, subdivision 2, and as provided by law and any other money donated, allotted, transferred, or otherwise provided to the account.

(b) Money in the account is annually appropriated to the commissioner of human services for grants to nonprofit organizations to provide transportation of home-delivered meals, groceries, purchased food, or a combination, to Minnesotans who are experiencing food insecurity and have difficulty obtaining or preparing meals due to limited mobility, disability, age, or resources to prepare their own meals. A nonprofit organization must have a demonstrated history of providing and distributing food customized for the population that they serve.

(c) Grant funds under this subdivision must supplement, but not supplant, any state or federal funding used to provide prepared meals to Minnesotans experiencing food insecurity.

Subd. 2. **Authority.** The Minnesota Board on Aging shall allocate to area agencies on aging the state nutrition support and food delivery support funds and the federal funds that are received for senior nutrition programs in a manner consistent with the board's intrastate funding formula.

Subd. 3. **Nutrition support services.** (a) Funds allocated to an area agency on aging for nutrition support services may be used for the following, as determined appropriate by the area agency on aging to address the needs of older adults in the agency's planning and service area:

(1) transportation of home-delivered meals and purchased food and medications to the residence of an older adult;

(2) expansion of home-delivered meals into unserved and underserved areas;

(3) transportation of older adults to grocery stores or delivery of groceries to homes of older adults;

(4) vouchers for food purchases at selected restaurants in isolated rural areas;

(5) the Supplemental Nutrition Assistance Program (SNAP) outreach;

(6) transportation of older adults to congregate dining sites;

(7) nutrition screening assessments and counseling as needed by individuals with special dietary needs, performed by a licensed dietitian or nutritionist;

(8) medically tailored meals;

(9) other appropriate services and tools that support senior nutrition programs, including new service delivery models and technology; and

(10) development and implementation of innovative models to provide healthy and nutritious food to older adults, including through partnerships with schools, restaurants, hospitals, food shelves and food pantries, farmers, and other community partners.

(b) An area agency on aging may transfer unused funding for nutrition support services to fund congregate dining services and home-delivered meals.

(c) State funds under this subdivision are subject to federal requirements in accordance with the Minnesota Board on Aging's intrastate funding formula.

**History:** *1996 c 451 art 6 s 10; 1Sp2003 c 14 art 1 s 106; 2014 c 312 art 27 s 51; 1Sp2019 c 9 art 1 s 42; 2023 c 68 art 3 s 19; 1Sp2025 c 9 art 1 s 6,7; 2026 c 95 art 4 s 11*