



ADULT PROTECTIVE SERVICES UPDATE

Title:	Coronavirus Response and Relief Supplemental Appropriations Act of 2021: Grants to Enhance Adult Protective Services to Respond to COVID-19
Publish Date:	February 11, 2021
Effective Date:	April 1, 2021
Program Manager:	Gloriana Fisher, gfisher@dhs.state.ia.us
Background Information:	<p>Background Information: The Administration for Community Living (ACL) is establishing the “Coronavirus Response and Relief Supplemental Appropriations Act of 2021: Grants to Enhance Adult Protective Services to Respond to COVID-19” funding opportunity to implement Section 2042(b) of Subtitle B of Title XX of the Social Security Act, otherwise known as the Elder Justice Act (EJA) as authorized and funded through the Coronavirus Response and Relief Supplemental Appropriations Act, 2021. In accordance with these statutes, the purpose of this opportunity is to enhance and improve adult protective services provided by States and local units of government in response to the COVID-19 pandemic.</p> <p>Stakeholder Engagement: DHS policy staff has engaged various DHS divisions, the Attorney General's Office, and the Iowa Department of Aging in developing a comprehensive spending plan to improve the department’s adult protective service program as allowed within spending parameters.</p> <p>Reason for the Change: Funds expended from the Coronavirus Response and Relief Supplemental Appropriations Act, 2021 are to be spent in accordance with Elder Justice Act Section 2042(b) for APS programs to respond to the Coronavirus Emergency. Funds awarded under this opportunity will provide Adult Protective Services programs (APS) in the States and territories with resources related to their response during the Coronavirus Public Health Emergency. APS programs must expend funds on allowable activities as defined by the Elder Justice Act and State and local policy. This funding is intended to enhance, improve, and expand the ability of APS to investigate allegations of abuse, neglect, and exploitation in the context of COVID-19 and to respond to the needs of adults experiencing such abuse, neglect and exploitation.</p>

<p>What Is Changing:</p>	<p>What Is Changing: This one-time funding is the first time states have received a federally funded award to address adult protective services.</p> <p>Who Is Impacted: DHS will be able to improve their adult protective service program to benefit vulnerable lowans statewide.</p>
<p>What Is Not Changing:</p>	<p>Funding for this opportunity were made available through emergency legislation to support Americans during the COVID-19 crisis. Funds must be expended on APS activities related to the Coronavirus Emergency. Because this funding comes through a supplemental funding bill and is not considered a part of the annual federal budget, this funding is considered “one-time” funding. That is, grantees should have no expectation that there will be additional, similar funds available in the future.</p> <p>Funds shall supplement and not supplant existing funding. Funding made available through this opportunity may not be used to replace existing state, territory, or local funding already appropriated for APS programs and services. Existing funds for an existing project or activities may not be displaced by federal funds and reallocated for other organizational expenses. The funding through this opportunity must add to the state’s/territory’s current funding levels, not be used to replace funding, even to cover funding reductions.</p>
<p>Expected Benefits:</p>	<p>It is anticipated funds will be used to enhance data systems, provide training and support to DHS adult protective staff, provide funds/equipment to support remote work, provide discretionary funds for direct good and services to vulnerable adults, and facilitate community outreach and team building.</p>