

Healthy Aging Grants Recipient Pre-Award Guidance

Project Overview

Established through [House Bill 33 of the 135th General Assembly](#), Healthy Aging Grant funds will be used by ODA to provide grants to all Ohio counties to address social determinants of health and to foster improved quality of life for older Ohioans so they may remain in their homes and connected to their communities, preserve their personal assets, and promote a healthy, independent, active lifestyle. Healthy Aging Grants provide expansion of evidence-informed/evidence-based programs and services in alignment with [Ohio's State Plan on Aging, 2023-2026](#).

Local counties will be able to support communities' recovery from the most recent COVID-19 pandemic and public health emergency, including supporting older Ohioans disproportionately impacted, many of whom continue to struggle with health and economic consequences. Healthy Aging Grants resolve to address the longstanding health and economic disparities, which amplified the impact of the pandemic in many of Ohio's counties.

Project Period

The project period of the Healthy Aging Grants runs 10/1/2023 – 9/30/2024. Grant obligations must be made by 6/30/2024. Expenditures of those obligations may not extend beyond 9/30/2024.

Eligible Uses of Funds

Executed grant agreements will include all eligible uses of funds.

All grant recipients are required to allocate a portion of the funding received to the following services:

- At least twenty percent (20%) of total allocation to support **food assistance** services;
- At least twenty percent (20%) of total allocation to support **housing assistance**; and,
- At least ten percent (10%) of total allocation to support **internet access and digital literacy** services.

The remaining funds may be used to provide evidence-based/evidence-informed services in alignment with the [Ohio's 2023-2026 State Plan on Aging](#), including:

- **Community conditions**, including strategies to improve financial stability, housing quality and affordability, and/or transportation;
- **Healthy living**, including strategies to improve nutrition and/or physical activity;
- **Access to care**, including strategies to improve health insurance enrollment, including outreach and advocacy and/or family caregiver supports;
- **Social Connectedness**, including strategies to improve social inclusion and/or volunteerism;
- **Population Health**, including strategies to reduce cognitive difficulty, hypertension, and/or depression;
- **Preserving Independence**, including strategies to improve chronic pain management and/or, falls risk and mobility.

Recipients may retain up to ten percent (10%) of total funds received for the administration of the project.

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Capital Expenditures

Recipients may not use funds for capital expenditures. Additions, improvements, modifications, replacements, rearrangements, reinstallation, renovations, or alterations to capital assets that materially increase their value or useful life are not permitted.

Ordinary repairs and maintenance to a home environment that are directly related to reducing the risk of falling and improving the general safety, accessibility, and functional abilities of an older adult are permitted. Recipients are encouraged to carefully consider equitable use of funds across their county. Even ordinary repairs and maintenance services may be costly and may limit the amount of older adult residents served by grant funds.

Ordinary repairs and maintenance include, but are not limited to, repairs and/or maintenance of:

- Home exteriors, such as adding exterior lighting, correcting safety hazards, installing ramps or handrails, and/or fixing uneven pathways;
- Home interiors, such as installing railings and/or grab bars and repairing flooring transitions and electrical outlets;
- Residential HVAC systems; and/or
- Residential roofs.

It is essential to be aware that repair and maintenance work may prompt or require an environmental review and/or require permits or inspection from local and/or state governing agencies. All repair and maintenance work funded by Healthy Aging Grants must be completed in compliance with local and/or state building codes and residential and environmental laws, rules and regulations.

Exceptions may be approved on a case-by-case basis. Recipients may request an exception from ODA as it relates to capital expenditures.

Ohio Grants Portal (<https://grantsportal.ohio.gov/>)

All county commissions must complete an application to be eligible for Healthy Aging Grants. Applications can be completed via the [Ohio Grants Portal](#). To apply, you must access the portal using your “citizens ID” or “OH ID”. This digital ID is issued by the State of Ohio and provides a single, secure entry point to many of the online tools and applications used by state agencies. If you need assistance logging in with your ID, please review [OH ID Help Logging In](#) webpage.

Application Period

Access the Ohio Grants Portal to complete your application. The application period will close at 11:59 pm on 10/13/2023. Applications must be complete and submitted on time to be eligible for funding. Applications do not need to be completed in one sitting. You may save your application and complete it at another time. For assistance searching and applying for the funding opportunity, please review this helpful [job aid](#).

Payment

Recipients will receive grant payment via [OhioPays](#). All recipients must register with OhioPays and ensure the payee profile information is up to date.

Funds will be paid on an advance basis. Each recipient must submit a request for funds (RFF) for payment. ODA will provide a RFF form for use. The completed RFF form must be submitted to ODAINVOICES@age.ohio.gov. ODA will review the RFF form and make payment via OhioPays.

Funds must be obligated or expended for eligible uses by 6/30/2024. All funds must be expended for eligible uses by 9/30/2024. Recipients will be required to return any remaining funds if at least 50% of

the funds are not obligated by 3/31/2024, as documented in the quarterly report submitted on/before 4/10/2024.

Project Reporting

All recipients will be required to submit expenditure and program-related reports on a quarterly basis. Additional details will be provided in the grant agreements. Recipients will submit all reports via the [Ohio Grants Portal](#).

Report	Reporting Period	Report Due (on/before)
1	10/1/2023 – 12/31/2023	1/10/2024
2	10/1/2023 – 3/31/2024	4/10/2024
3	10/1/2023 – 6/30/2024	7/10/2024
4	10/1/2023 – 9/30/2024	10/10/2024
FINAL	10/1/2023 – 9/30/2024	10/31/2024

Resources

- ODA Healthy Aging Grants webpage
- [Ohio's 2023-2026 State Plan on Aging](#)
 - Strategic Action Plan on Aging: [Implementation Toolkit](#)
 - Implementation Toolkit – Tools:
 - [Advancing Elder Justice Worksheet](#)
 - [Alignment Tracker](#)
 - [Implementation Worksheet](#)
 - [Partnership Worksheet](#)
 - [Prioritization Worksheet](#)
 - [Strategy Selection Worksheet](#)
 - [Implementation Toolkit Webinar](#)