



## **REQUEST FOR PROPOSALS**

**Older Americans Act  
Title III B, D, and E Funding**

**Fiscal Year 2026**

### **IMPORTANT DATES!**

**Applications due March 19, 2025  
No later than 3:00 p.m.**

**Submit to: [Applications@SWCAA.org](mailto:Applications@SWCAA.org)**

**Please see page four for technical assistance  
dates and requirements**

**REQUEST FOR PROPOSALS**  
**Title III Funding under the Older Americans Act**  
**Fiscal Year 2026**

**Application due no later than 3:00 p.m.**  
**Wednesday, March 19, 2025**  
**Submit to [Applications@SWCAA.org](mailto:Applications@SWCAA.org)**

**GENERAL INSTRUCTIONS**

To be considered for Fiscal Year 2026 funding, you must:

- Submit an electronic copy of the **Grant Application in Word format, Title III Budget in Excel, Agency Audit, and all Required Supplemental Documents listed below**, no later than 3:00 p.m. on March 19, 2025 to [Applications@SWCAA.org](mailto:Applications@SWCAA.org) . If an applicant does not have an audit SWCAA will accept Financial Statements from a Certified Public Accountant and an IRS Form 990.
- Save documents using the following format: Organization Name Document Name  
 Example: Happy Community Center Application  
 Example: Happy Community Center Budget  
 Example: Happy Community Center Audit  
 Example: Happy Community Center Required Supplemental Documents
- **For NEW projects, please choose a short title for the new project name. All documents must include the same project name.**
- **For RETURNING projects, please keep the project name consistent with the current project name.**
- Do not add additional pages.

REQUIRED SUPPLEMENTAL DOCUMENTS	CHECK OFF
1. Application in <b>Word</b> format	
2. Budget in <b>Excel format</b> (select one budget template specific to your funding request for Title III B, D, or E projects)	
3. Audit including Single Audits, and response if any findings. If an applicant does not have an audit SWCAA will accept Financial Statements from a Certified Public Accountant and an IRS Form 990.	
4. Required Supplemental Documents <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Voluntary Contribution Procedure</li> <li>• Referral Plan</li> <li>• Client Grievance Procedure</li> <li>• Affirmative Action Plan</li> <li>• <b>Signed</b> Vendor’s Statement</li> <li>• <b>Signed</b> Standard Assurances</li> <li>• Letter(s) of Understanding for Subcontracts (if applicable)</li> </ul>	

Omission of requested information or the submission of incomplete material may cause removal of application from further consideration. If you have any questions please contact Gretchen James, Grants Manager, at (203-814-3620) or (GJames@swcaa.org).

**NEW PROGRAM INTERVIEW** is required for all prospective NEW programs. SWCAA will contact the applicant to schedule the interview during an allocation's subcommittee meeting held in late May or early June.

## **APPLICATION REVIEWS**

All applications that meet the submission requirements will be reviewed by an allocations subcommittee made up of SWCAA Board of Directors and Advisory Council members. Applications will be reviewed on a competitive basis utilizing the following criteria:

- level of need for the project as demonstrated by alignment with SWCAA's Area Plan
- ability of the project to serve Older Americans Act target populations
- geographic area(s) served (An effort is made to balance fund distribution throughout the southwestern CT area based on the percentage of poor and minority seniors)
- reasonableness of the project plan
- qualifications of staff assigned to the project
- project budget and proposed unit cost
- site visit evaluations or new program interview

Based on subcommittee recommendations, the SWCAA Board of Directors will, in its discretion, determine final awards based on the estimated funds available.

SWCAA will notify each applicant in writing within ten (10) days after the decision of the Board of Directors of the applicant's proposal status. Appeals are accepted only in the case that the applicant has evidence of SWCAA's failure to follow the application review and funding process and must be sent via registered mail or delivered in person to 1000 Lafayette Boulevard, 9<sup>th</sup> Floor, Bridgeport, CT 06604 within ten (10) days of the dispatch date of SWCAA's notification. Further details on the appeals process may be found in the Policy and Procedure Manual available at [www.SWCAA.org](http://www.SWCAA.org).

## **SWCAA WEBSITE GRANT WRITING RESOURCES**

The following documents are available on SWCAA's website: [www.swcaa.org/grants-overview-for-seniors-services/grant-writing-resources/](http://www.swcaa.org/grants-overview-for-seniors-services/grant-writing-resources/)

- Title III MIS Service Definitions- lists all services eligible for reimbursement through Title III
- Policy and Procedure Manual for Title III Grants
- U.S. Census Data & Fairfield County Demographics
- Poverty Guidelines
- Fiscal Years 2021-2024 Area Plan on Aging Summary
- Budget & Application Glossary and Examples
- Older Americans Act and Regulations
- Community Services Policy Manual

## **TECHNICAL ASSISTANCE**

### **New Applicants**

New applicants are required to attend a mandatory technical assistance session on **February 27, 2025, 2:00 pm- 3:00 pm at SWCAA located at 1000 Lafayette Blvd., 9<sup>th</sup> Floor, in Bridgeport.** To register

please email Gretchen James ([GJames@swcaa.org](mailto:GJames@swcaa.org)). Please include your name, agency name, and contact information.

### **Current Grantees**

Current grantees may attend an optional virtual technical assistance session on March 5, 2025, 1:00 pm-2:00 pm. To register please email Gretchen James ([GJames@swcaa.org](mailto:GJames@swcaa.org)). Please include your name and email address to receive a zoom meeting link. Feel free to submit questions in advance of the TA session.

### **Technical Assistance by Request**

All applicants have the option of attending an individual meeting with SWCAA to review grant application specific questions before submitting the final Application, Budget and all required documents. Please contact Gretchen James at [GJames@swcaa.org](mailto:GJames@swcaa.org) to schedule a meeting.

## **IMPORTANT DETAILS FOR SUBMITTING YOUR GRANT APPLICATION DOCUMENTS**

1. All SWCAA-funded projects and services must be located in one or more of the following fourteen (14) towns:  
  
Bridgeport, Darien, Easton, Fairfield, Greenwich, Monroe, New Canaan, Norwalk, Stamford, Stratford, Trumbull, Weston, Westport, and Wilton.
2. Applications are sought on a competitive basis for the project period October 1, 2025-September 30, 2026. All grants will be subject to the availability of funds.
3. **The electronic copy of the Grant Application, Budget, Required Supplemental Documents, and Agency Audit (or Financial Statements from a Certified Public Accountant or IRS Form 990) must be submitted no later than 3:00 p.m. on March 19, 2025 to [Applications@SWCAA.org](mailto:Applications@SWCAA.org).**
4. If SWCAA does not award the total grant amount requested, partial funding may be awarded. In such a case, a revised budget, goals, and estimated client and service numbers will be required.
5. Services must target adults age 60 years and over, living in SWCAA's fourteen (14) town area, with funding preference given to programs serving older persons in greatest economic or social need with particular attention to low-income minority individuals and persons at risk of institutionalization. The number of low income and the number of minority older individuals to be served should be, at a minimum, in the same proportion as represented in the older population of the towns to be served according to the most recent U.S. census. Census data for southwestern Connecticut is available at [www.SWCAA.org](http://www.SWCAA.org). Title III funds may not supplant Medicaid funds or other private insurance.
6. Only services described on the appropriate Title III MIS Service Definitions lists available at <https://www.swcaa.org/grants-overview-for-seniors-services/grant-writing-resources/> are eligible for funding. An applicant can request a maximum of three MIS Services. Please review definition lists to determine which service matches the project you are proposing and how the unit of service is counted. For example, the MIS Service *Information & Assistance* has a unit of service that is counted by *one contact*. The MIS Service *Shopping Services* has a unit of service that is counted by *one hour*.
8. Each grantee must offer participants in Title III funded projects the opportunity to contribute voluntarily to the cost of activities.

9. All Title III B and Title III E funded projects must include matching funds from non-federal sources. Certification of the availability of the non-federal matching funds must be included in the application budget. Please review the entire non-federal match requirements in the Policy and Procedure Manual for Title III Grants for further details about this requirement.
10. Applicants are responsible for familiarizing themselves with (1) the Policy and Procedure Manual for Title III Grants, (2) the Older Americans Act, (3) the SWCAA Fiscal Years 2021-2024 Area Plan on Aging and (4) appropriate State and Federal regulations. The Policy and Procedure Manual, the SWCAA Area Plan and links to the State and Federal regulations are available at [www.SWCAA.org/Funding](http://www.SWCAA.org/Funding) Opportunities.
11. Use only the FY 2026 Grant Application and Budget Package templates.
12. All grants awarded will be monitored by SWCAA, as required by the federal government. The process includes an Annual Program Review (may take place in person, virtually or in written format), monthly claim submissions in SWCAA's online data portal (Grantee Gateway), completion of Form 5 consumer registration demographic forms, a year-end report, and additional reporting as necessary.

### **ELIGIBILITY FOR FUNDING DEFINED BY OLDER AMERICANS ACT**

1. Public; incorporated private 501(c)(3) non-profit; and private, for-profit agencies (must be approved by the State Unit on Aging) in good standing with the office of the Connecticut Secretary of State, and that provide service within SWCAA's fourteen-town area (Bridgeport, Darien, Easton, Fairfield, Greenwich, Monroe, New Canaan, Norwalk, Stamford, Stratford, Trumbull, Weston, Westport, Wilton) are eligible.
2. All applicants must submit a financial audit for the previous fiscal year. Any agency required to obtain a state or federal single audit must also submit those reports. If the audit includes any audit findings, a letter from management addressing how they are responding to the findings must also be submitted. If an applicant does not have an audit SWCAA will accept Financial Statements from a Certified Public Accountant and an IRS Form 990. Please review the entire audit requirements in the Policy and Procedure Manual for Title III Grants for further details about this requirement.

### **MISSION & ROLE OF SWCAA**

The Southwestern Connecticut Agency on Aging (SWCAA) is a private, not-for-profit corporation, established in 1974. SWCAA is the trusted source of advocacy, information, and access to care for older and vulnerable adults that provides resources to strengthen the regional aging network.

As a designated Area Agency on Aging, SWCAA is a pass-through funding source for federal and state dollars for the elderly in the fourteen-town area of southwestern Connecticut. SWCAA awards grants and contracts to community agencies to provide supportive services for community adults aged 60 and older through an annual Request for Proposals process. Funding supports services such as nutrition, in-home, legal, health, adult day care/respice, transportation, senior centers and outreach/social support.

## TITLE III SERVICES & ESTIMATED FUNDS AVAILABLE BY CATEGORY

Early estimates of Federal and State funds available for FY 2026 listed below are subject to change following approval of Federal and State budgets. The maximum award allowed for any one project is \$50,000, and no more than \$100,000 shall be awarded to any single applicant as identified by a Federal Employer Identification Number across all funding categories per fiscal year except under extraordinary circumstances.

For a complete list of reimbursable services under Title III-B, Title III-D, and Title III-E visit [SWCAA.org/Funding Opportunities/Grant Writing Resources](http://SWCAA.org/Funding%20Opportunities/Grant%20Writing%20Resources) for the MIS Service Definition Lists.

<p><b>TITLE III-B</b> \$645,494 (estimate)</p>	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>1. <i>Access Services.</i> Helping seniors gain access to available services through information &amp; assistance, outreach, transportation, and health (including behavioral health) services.</li> <li>2. <i>Legal Services</i></li> <li>3. <i>In-home Services.</i> Homemaker, home health aide, visiting and telephone reassurance, adult day care, chore, minor home modification, personal care services and other supportive services that assist older individuals in living independently in a home environment.</li> <li>4. <i>Community Services.</i> Multipurpose senior centers, mental health services, dental services, and other community based supportive services.</li> </ol>
<p><b>TITLE III-D</b> \$24,924 (estimate)</p>	<p><i>Evidence-Based Health Promotion Programs</i> All Title III D funded programs must replicate programs that meet the Administration on Aging’s highest-level criteria for evidence-based programs. For eligible evidence-based programs go to <a href="https://www.ncoa.org/evidence-based-programs/">https://www.ncoa.org/evidence-based-programs/</a></p>
<p><b>TITLE III-E</b> \$71,000 (estimate)</p>	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>1. <i>National Family Caregiver Support Program</i> Supportive services for family caregivers (aged 19 and older) who provide in-home care for an individual aged 60 and older including: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Information/Assistance;</li> <li>• Case management;</li> <li>• Individual counseling;</li> <li>• Caregiver support group;</li> <li>• Caregiver training &amp; other support services</li> </ul> </li> <li>2. <i>Grandparents Raising Grandchildren</i> Supportive services for grandparents or other family caregivers (aged 55 and older) of children (aged 18 or younger or with a disability) including: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Information &amp; Assistance;</li> <li>• Case Management;</li> <li>• Individual counseling;</li> <li>• Caregiver support group</li> <li>• Caregiver training and other support services</li> </ul> </li> </ol>