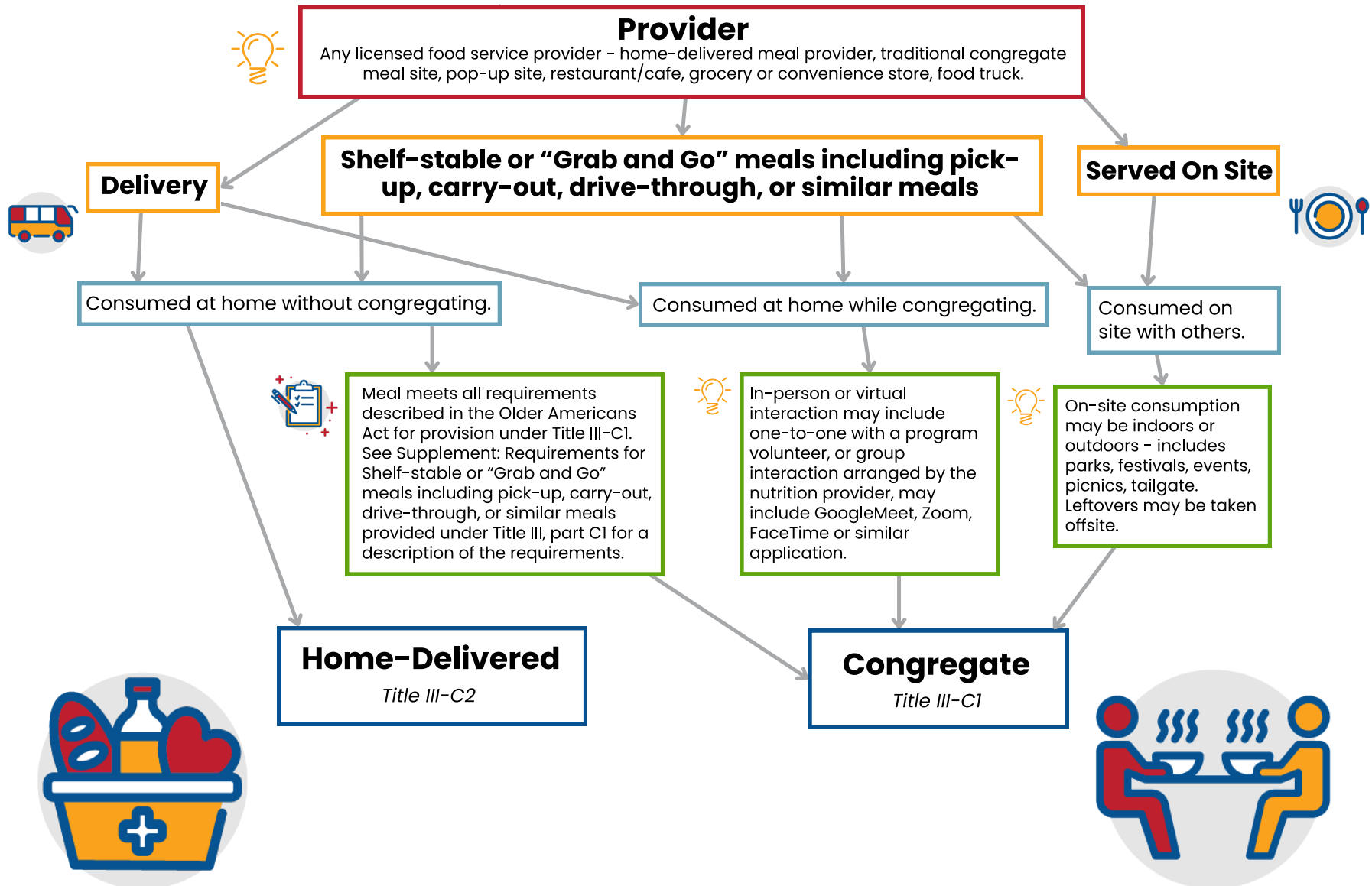


## Is It a Congregate or Home-Delivered Meal?

Classifying an Older Americans Act (OAA) nutrition service as Congregate (Title III-C1) or Home-Delivered (Title III-C2) will impact reporting and data collection, as well as identifying funding sources for contract and grants. States, Area Agencies on Aging and local service providers may need to review and/or update policies and procedures to ensure accurate tracking of service delivery methods and consumer participation in provider-arranged interaction described below.

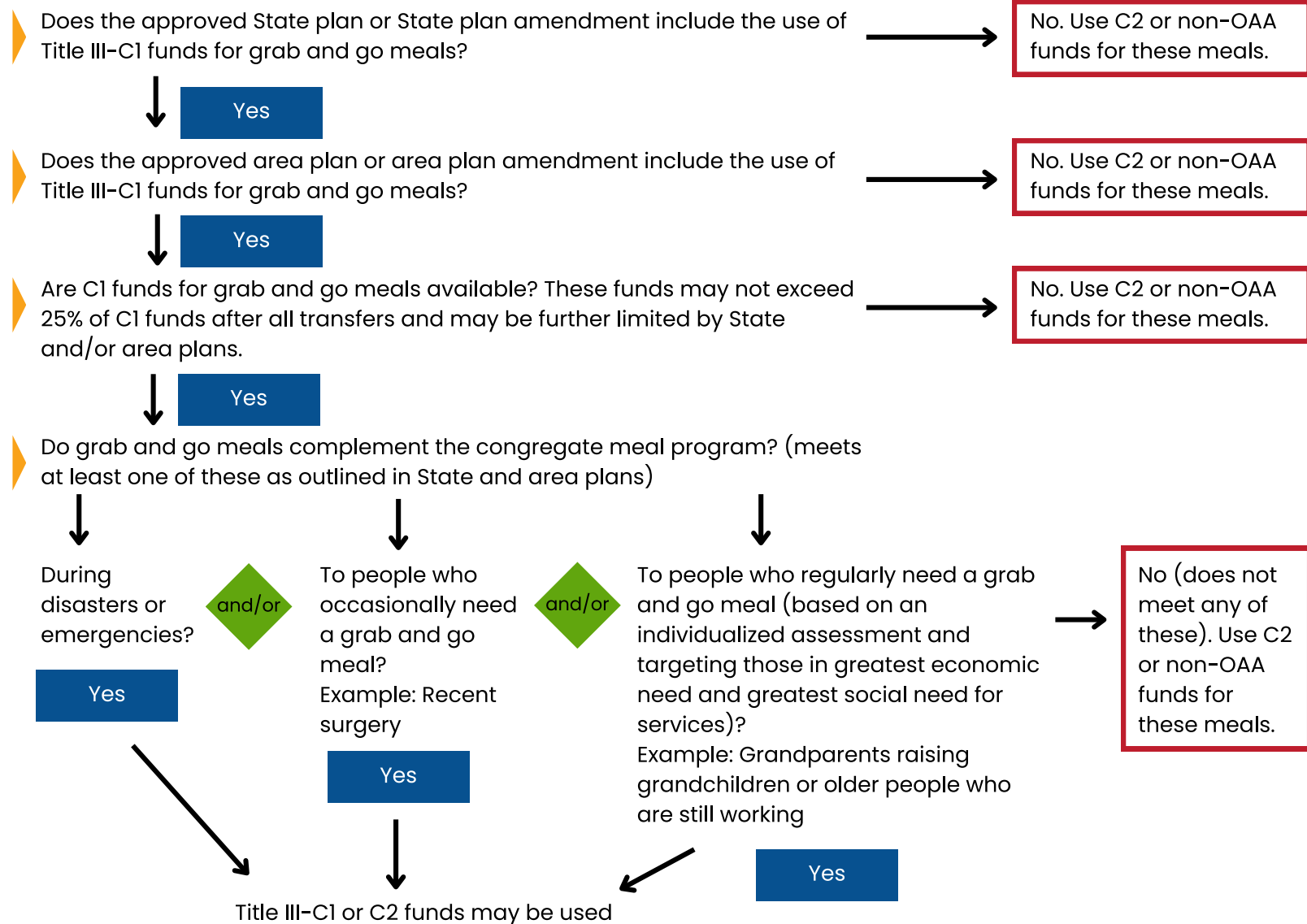
Always refer to your state and local policies for any restrictions that may impact the options listed below.



## Supplement:

### Requirements for Shelf-stable or “Grab and Go” meals including pick-up, carry-out, drive-through, or similar meals provided under Title III-C1

See [45 CFR 1321.87\(a\)\(1\)](#)



### **Grab and Go Decision Tree Extended Text:**

This resource is intended to describe the inherent flexibilities of the Older Americans Act Senior Nutrition Program. Nutrition service delivery models may be adjusted to provide person-centered services, while concurrently leveraging available funding sources and accurately tracking services.

“Provider ” means any licensed food service provider, such as a home-delivered meal provider, traditional congregate meal site, pop-up site, restaurant/café, grocery or convenience store, or food truck. Any of these providers can provide home delivered, shelf-stable or “Grab and Go” meals, including pick-up, carry-out, drive-through, or similar meals, as well as congregate meals served onsite.

Home-delivered meals can be consumed at home without congregating or consumed at home while congregating.

- If the meal is consumed at home without congregating, then the meal is home-delivered and is simply classified as Title III-C2.
- However, if the meal is consumed at home while congregating, either in-person or virtually, the meal may be reported and funded under Title III-C1.
  - ◊ In-person or virtual interaction may include one-to-one with a program volunteer, or group interaction, arranged by the nutrition provider.
  - ◊ Virtual interaction may include Google Meet, Zoom, FaceTime or similar applications.
  - ◊ Interaction while consuming a home-delivered meal must be arranged by the provider to be considered a congregate meal classified as Title III-C1.

Shelf-stable or “Grab and Go” meals, including pick-up, carry-out, drive-through, or similar meals, can be consumed at home without congregating, consumed at home while congregating, or consumed onsite with others.

- If the meal is consumed at home without congregating, then the meal is home-delivered and is classified as Title III-C2.
- However, shelf stable or “grab and meals” consumed at home without congregating may be classified as Title III-C1 if the meals meet the requirements described in the Older Americans Act Final Rule, 45 CFR 1321.87.
  - ◊ See Supplement: Requirements for Shelf-stable or “Grab and Go” meals including pick-up, carry-out, drive-through, or similar meals provided under Title III, part C1 for a description of the requirements.
- If the meal is consumed at home while congregating, either in-person or virtually, the meal may be reported and funded under Title III-C1.
  - ◊ In-person or virtual interaction may include one-to-one with a program volunteer, or group interaction, arranged by the nutrition provider.
  - ◊ Virtual interaction may include Google Meet, Zoom, FaceTime or similar applications.
  - ◊ Interaction while consuming a shelf-stable or “grab and go” meal must be arranged by the provider to be considered a congregate meal classified as Title III-C1.
- If the meal is consumed on site with others the meal is congregate and is classified as Title III-C1.
  - ◊ On-site consumption can be indoors or outdoors, including parks, festivals, events, picnics, and tailgates.
  - ◊ Leftovers may be taken offsite.

Congregate meals that are consumed on site with others are classified as Title III-C1.

- ◊ On-site consumption can be indoors or outdoors, including parks, festivals, events, picnics, and tailgates.
- ◊ Leftovers may be taken offsite.

### **Supplement Extended Text:**

Does the approved State plan or State plan amendment include the use of Title III-C1 funds for grab and go meals? If no, use Title III-C2 or non-OAA funds for these meals. If yes, continue.

Does the approved area plan or area plan amendment include the use of Title III-C1 funds for grab and go meals? If no, use Title III-C2 or non-OAA funds for these meals. If yes, continue.

Are Title III-C1 funds for grab and go meals available? These funds may not exceed 25% of C1 funds after all transfers, and may be further limited by State and/or area plans. If no, use Title III-C2 or non-OAA funds for these meals. If yes, continue.

Do grab and go meals complement the congregate meal program? To complement the congregate meal program, the meal must meet at least one of these requirements as outlined in State and area plans. If no, use Title III-C2 or non-OAA funds for these meals.

Are the meals provided:

- During disasters or emergencies? and/or,
- To people who occasionally need a grab and go meal? An example is someone who had a recent surgery. and/or,
- To people who regularly need a grab and go meal (based on an individualized assessment and targeting those in greatest economic need and greatest social need for services)? Examples are grandparents raising grandchildren or older people who are still working.

If the answer to any of the three requirements to complement the congregate meals program, and all other requirements, is yes, then Title III-C1 or C2 funds may be used.

This resource was supported in part by a cooperative agreement No 90PPNU0002 from the Administration on Aging (AoA), Administration for Community Living (ACL), U.S. Department of Health and Human Services (HHS). Grantees carrying out projects under government sponsorship are encouraged to express freely their findings and conclusions. Therefore, points of view or opinions do not necessarily represent official AoA, ACL, or HHS policy.