

# ELIGIBILITY GUIDELINES FOR MEALS ON WHEELS

(Conditions of need and requirements for service)

1. Consumers applying for the Meals on Wheels program must be 60+ and must be homebound by illness, handicap and/or functional disability meeting the following guidelines:
  - a. Physically, emotionally or mentally unable to prepare their own meals and/or
  - b. Have no family or friends or aids available or willing on an ongoing or temporary basis, to assist with meal preparation and/or grocery shopping and/or
  - c. Physically, emotionally, mentally unable to attend or has no access to a Senior Center, (if client is able to go out and attend center via specialized transportation- not eligible for home delivered meals) and/or
  - d. Have no cooking facilities in their home
  
2. An individual who is able to do the following is not homebound and therefore, is ineligible for MOW services.
  - a. Walk to a center and/or restaurant
  - b. Use public transportation
  - c. Use specialized transportation to attend a center
  - d. Drive a car
  
3. Meals on Wheels is normally an interim, short term service designed to help a person through a difficult time until he/she can attend a senior center or otherwise become more independent.
  
4. When individual circumstances do not indicate the possibility of change in status and the person must continue to receive Meals on Wheels, a quarterly evaluation determines and documents his/her continuing need.

## Other information:

- There is no cost for the meals, however the meals are valued over \$6.25 per meal, therefore a donation of \$2.50/meal is suggested.
  
- Meals are delivered Monday-Friday, no weekends, no major holidays
  
- The Client Assessment Coordinator will call for an appt to visit and determine eligibility and to obtain and update personal information.
  
- Once a consumer is determined eligible for Meals on Wheels, the consumer is started on the program within a few days depending upon route availability.