

Great Plates Delivered:

An analysis of implementation for Lake County

Table of Contents

<u>Introduction</u>	page 2
<u>Program Overview</u>	page 2
<u>Eligibility Guidelines</u>	page 3
<u>Funding and Reimbursement</u>	page 3
<u>Cost to County</u>	page 4
<u>Conclusion</u>	page 5
<u>References</u>	page 6

Introduction

On April 24, 2020, Governor Gavin Newsom announced the Great Plates Delivered program, a meal delivery service for eligible older adults in partnership with local restaurants.

The purpose of Great Plates Delivered is twofold: to allow seniors at high risk from COVID-19 to stay home by delivering three meals a day, and to provide economic stimulus to local businesses affected by the Shelter-in-Place orders.

Program Overview

How does the program work?

Local administrators partner with multiple local food providers to deliver three nutritious meals each day to qualified individuals enrolled in the program. The local administrator is responsible for outreach to identify eligible individuals, contracting with local restaurants, and determining how meals are delivered (through local food providers, school bus drivers, delivery platform networks such as GrubHub and UberEats, etc.). Selection of delivery services and individuals delivering meals must include appropriate background check procedures. Weekly data reporting through a state provided online portal is required.

Which food providers qualify for participation in the program?

Food provider qualification is determined by the local administrator. Food providers must have the ability to meet volume and strict nutritional standards; source local produce/meats (if able); and prioritize local jobs and worker retention among other requirements. 100% of meals must be supplied by a food provider not currently participating in a state or federal meal service program.

How long will the program run?

The program runs until June 10, 2020, which is the timeframe currently approved by the Federal Emergency Management Agency (FEMA). The State intends to request extensions in 30 day increments as necessary.

Eligibility Guidelines

Who qualifies for enrollment into the program?

- Individuals who are 65 or older, or 60-64 and at high-risk as defined by the CDC, including:
 - Individuals who are COVID-19 positive or COVID-19 exposed (as documented by a state/local public health official or medical health professional),
 - Individuals with an underlying condition.
- Individuals must live alone or with one other program-eligible adult.
- Participants must not be eligible for or currently receiving assistance from other state or federal nutrition assistance programs or have received such assistance in the last 30 days.
- Participants must earn no more than 600% of the federal poverty limit
 - Individuals: less than \$74,940 per year, couples: less than \$101,460 per year
- Individuals must affirm an inability to prepare or obtain meals.

How is eligibility determined?

- A script of questions to determine eligibility is provided by the State.
- Individuals must self-certify eligibility for the program.
- Program costs for individuals later found ineligible for the program are paid by the County.

Funding and Reimbursement

How is this program funded?

Local administrators are responsible for funding the program and may be reimbursed through the FEMA Public Assistance (PA) program.

Will FEMA PA reimburse all eligible costs?

Costs are limited to \$66 for three daily meals, inclusive of delivery and administrative costs. Administrative costs are capped at 5% leaving \$62.70 per day to cover three meals and delivery. Currently a local cost share of 6.25% is required to participate in this program. However, the state is pursuing 100% reimbursement from federal agencies for all eligible programs. Eligible program cost breakdown is as follows: 75% FEMA share, 18.75% state share, and 6.25% local share. Expedited funds of up to 50% of the FEMA cost share may be provided for eligible program work.

Cost to County

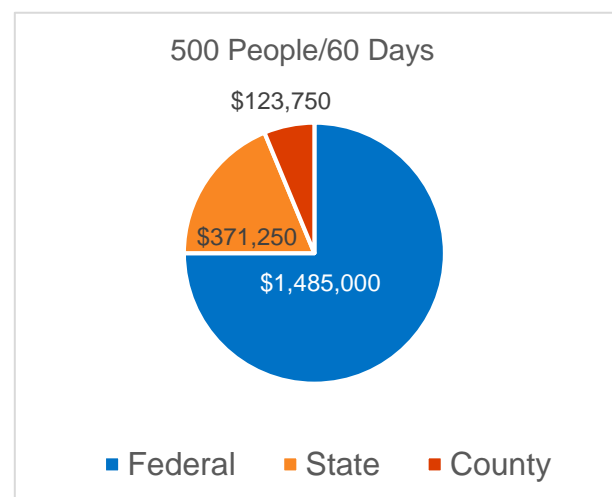
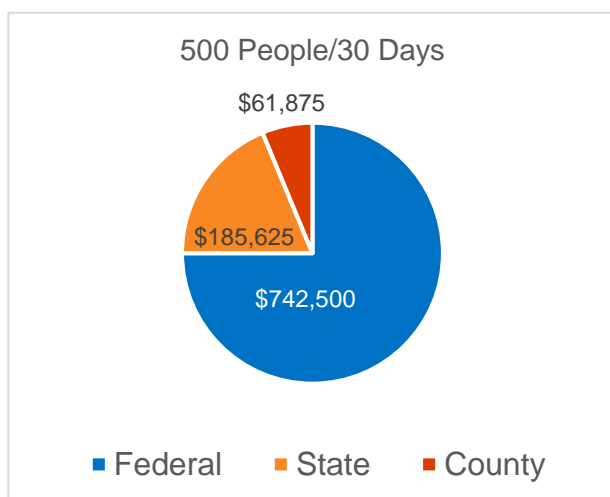
According to the 2018 Lake County Economic and Demographic Profile, approximately 23.6% of the population is aged 65 and older in stark contrast to the statewide percentage of 12.9% population in this age range. This places a disproportionate amount of potentially eligible seniors in Lake County. We anticipate serving approximately 500 individuals due to budgetary and staffing constraints. The following tables show projected cost to administer this program in Lake County.

Daily Costs per Individual Served

FEMA reimbursement 75%	\$49.50
State reimbursement 18.75%	\$12.38
County share 6.25%	\$ 4.13
Total per day per person	\$66.00

Monthly Costs

	1 Day		30 Days		60 Days	
Persons	100	500	100	500	100	500
Federal	\$4,950.00	\$24,750.00	\$148,500.00	\$742,500.00	\$297,000.00	\$1,485,000.00
State	\$1,237.50	\$6,187.50	\$37,125.00	\$185,625.00	\$74,250.00	\$371,250.00
County	\$412.50	\$2,062.50	\$12,375.00	\$61,875.00	\$24,750.00	\$123,750.00
Total	\$6,600.00	\$33,000.00	\$198,000.00	\$990,000.00	\$396,000.00	\$1,980,000.00



Conclusion

The Great Plates Delivered program provides an opportunity to stimulate our local economy and provide meals to individuals in higher income brackets who do not typically qualify for food assistance programs. This voluntary program specifically targets individuals earning less than \$74,940 per year and couples earning less than \$101,460 per year and specifically excludes those individuals who are eligible for or currently receiving assistance from federal or state feeding programs such as Meals on Wheels, CalFresh, SNAP, ETC. There are concerns that efforts to target this higher income population will divert time and resources from those in our community who are most in need of help.

While costs are not overwhelming on a small scale, they quickly escalate as individuals served is increased. Although the majority of program costs are expected to be reimbursed through state and federal programs, initial funding is to be provided by the County. Expedited funds up to 50% of the federal reimbursement amount are available through FEMA. Implementation of this program for 500 individuals for 30 days would initially cost the County \$990,000.00. We can anticipate receiving \$371,250.00 in expedited FEMA funding and \$185,625.00 in State reimbursement. The County would cover the remaining \$433,125.00. Once all reimbursable funds have been disbursed, the cost to run this program for 30 days is \$61,875.00.

Delivery of meals across our rural community will be particularly challenging as we are geographically spread out with a marked absence of urban housing. This program is intended to be run in partnership with local ride share, taxi, and existing food delivery companies (UberEats, GrubHub, etc). This network of transportation companies does not exist in Lake County. For participating restaurants, the costs of three daily meals, delivery, background checks, and staffing are all expected to be covered within the budgetary constraints of \$62.70 daily per person. Of note, our estimate was put together based on a very small percentage of the population that would theoretically be eligible; escalating costs and increasing demand may quickly make this program unsustainable.

References

[Great Plates Delivered Program Guidance](#)

[Participant FAQ](#)

[Local Administrator FAQs](#)

[Restaurant FAQs](#)

[Lake County Economic & Geographic Profile 2018](#)