

About the Senior Dining Program

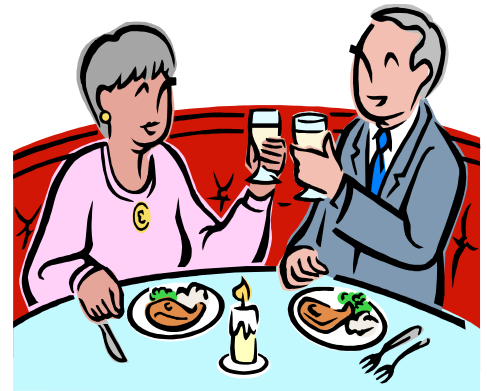
The purpose of the Senior Dining Program (SDP) is to promote health, to reduce risk of malnutrition, to improve nutritional status, to reduce social isolation, and to link older adults to community services. The SDP allows eligible participants to receive monthly certificates to redeem for an approved meal at a participating restaurant in the community. The SDP is available in Allen, Hancock, Putnam, and Van Wert counties.

Eligibility

Anyone who is 60 years of age or older and resides in Allen, Hancock, Putnam, and Van Wert counties can apply for the program. Because the program is very popular and the funding is not unlimited, applications are prioritized based on several factors: age, income, minority status, living alone, nutrition risk score, etc. Since there is always a waiting list, names are pulled from the waiting list as participants go off the program.

Enrollment

Annual enrollment happens each year in January. Applications can be picked up from the Allen County Council on Aging, Hancock Agency on Aging, Putnam County Council on Aging, Van Wert County Council on Aging, and at the Area Agency on Aging 3 in Lima but completed applications must be mailed in to our office. Applications will also be mailed to those on the program at the end of December and those on the waiting list at that time for the annual enrollment. It is not a first come, first serve and everyone must reapply in January to be considered for the new program year which starts in March of each year. In 2011, we have provided 626 older adults with the opportunity to eat out. Applications are accepted January through September each year.



How the Program Works

- Each program year starts in March.
- SDP Certificates are mailed out to participants on the last day of the previous month and they expire on the 5th day of the next month.
- Participants will receive 4 certificates each month.
- The participant's name and special bar code will be on the certificate and a listing of the restaurants is on the back.
- Certificates can only be used by the person whose name is on the certificate.
- Restaurants are encouraged to ask for ID if there is a question and can refuse service if necessary.
- The certificate must be signed by the person redeeming it and the meal redeemed circled when given to the restaurant personnel.
- The meal must be chosen from the SDP menu and must be eaten at the restaurant.
- Participants are asked to give a donation to the program monthly when they receive their certificates.
- Tips are left up to the participant.



This program is brought to you by the Area Agency on Aging 3 and funded by the Older Americans Act through the Ohio Department of Aging.

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