



The WIC'r Basket

Vendor Newsletter of the West Virginia WIC Program

West Virginia Department of Health and Human Resources | Bureau for Public Health, Office of Nutrition Services

Valley Reauthorization

The existing Vendor Agreement between authorized vendors in the Valley WIC Region will expire on March 31, 2018. This area includes the following counties: Boone, Cabell, Kanawha, Lincoln, Putnam, and Wayne. In order for stores to continue to be authorized, a new Vendor Agreement must be in place, which will be effective April 1, 2018. One of the requirements of the Vendor Agreement is all authorized vendors must receive federally mandated training before being authorized to participate in the West Virginia (WV) WIC Program. The State WIC Office will offer in-person training at 9 am and at 1 pm at the Charleston WIC clinic on both January 17 and 18, and at 9 am and 1 pm at the Huntington WIC clinic on both February 14 and 15. Corporate contacts, certified trainers and retail store managers in this region should schedule for one of these sessions as soon as possible by calling (304) 558-1115. All original signature applications and agreements must also be received by the Vendor Management Unit no later than February 15, 2018.

How Do I Keep an Up-to-Date APL on the eWIC Point-of-Sale (POS) Device?

As long as the Point-of-Sale (POS) device is plugged in, and the internet connection is working, the update is automatic. For stores with dual devices, and if a WIC transaction has occurred in the last 48 hours, the update will also be automatic. If the store is experiencing issues with the Approved Product List (APL) not downloading, please note:

- The device must be in neutral mode;
- The device must have a power source, and be connected to the internet;
- A WIC transaction must have been conducted within the last 48 hours; and,
- APLs can be manually downloaded.



ebtEDGESM For Stores with State Provided eWIC Point-of-Sale (POS) Devices

ebtEDGESM offers vendors utilizing state provided POS equipment direct access to information including SNAP and WIC transaction history, deposit details, ordering supplies, getting help or program information. To log on to the Merchant Portal for the first time:

1. Go to www.ebtEDGE.com. This is the ebtEDGESM Main Portal page.
2. Click Merchant Login in the left navigation bar. The EBT Merchant Log In page displays. You can select a user ID and password.
3. Click register online now. You will need the store FNS# (SNAP ID) and phone number.
4. The Merchant Main page displays all available features of the Merchant Portal.

Mead Johnson™ Product Price Change

The WV WIC Program has received notification that Mead Johnson™ Nutrition infant formula products will experience an increase in wholesale price effective February 1, 2018. This includes WV WIC Approved infant formulas which are listed in the chart below. With this price change, the WIC Program also anticipates an increase in retail prices. The Vendor Management Unit will be monitoring shelf prices in hopes of responding to this market change with appropriate Maximum Allowable Reimbursement Levels (i.e. Not to Exceed Price) for each peer group. Please notify the Vendor Management Unit if you are experiencing Not to Exceed (NTE) adjustments. Be prepared to report the product name, UPC, and your requested shelf price. NTE adjustments will be noted on the reconciliation receipt of each transaction or on end of day reports.



Description	One Retail Selling Unit	Units per Case		UPC
Enfamil® EnfaCare® Pwd	12.8 oz Can	6 Cans	Case	00300870019042
			Unit	00300870019448
Nutramigen® RTU	6 (8 fl oz) Bottles/Carton	4 Cartons	Unit	00300875102466
Nutramigen® RTU	32 fl oz Bottle	6 Bottles	Unit	00300875115640
Nutramigen® Concentrate Liquid	13 fl oz Can	12 Cans	Case	00300870498113
			Unit	00300870498014
Nutramigen® with Enflora™ LGG® Pwd	12.6 oz Can	6 Cans	Unit	00300871239418
Pregestimil® Pwd	16 oz Can	6 Cans	Case	00300870367211
			Unit	00300870367013

EBT Systems Must be Compliant with Final EBT Operating Rules by March 2018

The Healthy, Hunger-Free Kids Act of 2010 (HHFKA) included provisions related to electronic benefit transfer (EBT) for the WIC Program. The final EBT Operating Rules establish technical rules for WIC EBT transactions comparable to commercial operating rules for credit, debit and other tender types. The rules may be found at <https://www.fns.usda.gov/wic/wic-ebt-operating-rules-technical-implementation-guide>.

When must compliance with these rules be met?

Compliance with operating rules, standards, and technical requirements costs must be met by March 1, 2018.

What does it mean to be EBT capable under the final rule?

After a WIC State agency has implemented statewide EBT, which occurred in October 2013 in West Virginia, a vendor applying for WIC authorization must demonstrate to the State agency that their Point-of-Sale (POS) system can accept WIC EBT purchases, obtain a benefit balance, and complete a WIC transaction accurately and securely. Additionally, WIC vendors must be able to exchange updated files with the State agency.

The only exception for the requirement that vendors obtain their own EBT equipment prior to authorization as a WIC vendor is when the State agency determines the vendor is necessary for participant access and arranges for installation of single-function equipment (a device which only conducts WIC transactions) or elects to share in the cost of multi-function equipment (i.e. a device supporting WIC and SNAP/Cash EBT). Likewise, the State agency will support the ongoing maintenance cost of single-function equipment if the device was provided by the WV WIC Program.

The West Virginia WIC Program has developed a two-step application process in which vendor applicants are assessed for all selection criteria, except EBT capability. Once the applicant is notified that they meet all other vendor selection criteria, then the State agency will take steps to assess participant access or verify the store obtained equipment is EBT capable. This two-step process ensures vendor applicants are not required to spend time and money to become EBT capable if they are otherwise necessary for participant access or ineligible for WIC authorization.

What are some notable changes with these new rules?

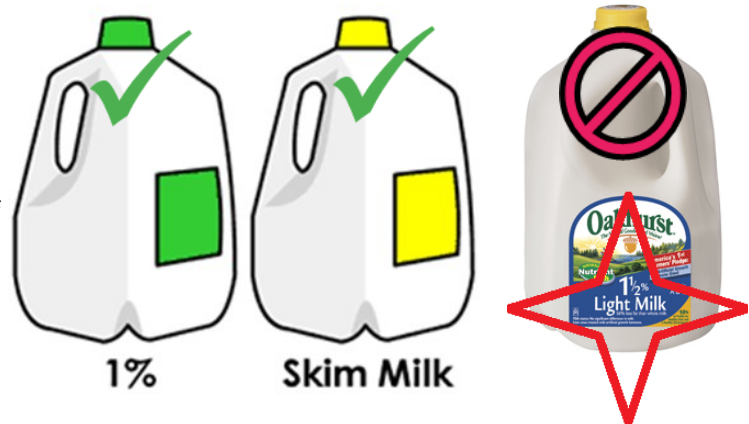
Vendors shall be able to manage a minimum of six (6) WIC State Agencies including the WIC State Agency Bank Identification Number (BIN) numbers. Vendors must be able to utilize the APL (and for WIC Smart Card EBT, the Hot Card List) and other WIC State Agency specifications that may apply. Also, vendors shall utilize the BIN on the WIC EBT Card to identify the appropriate WIC State Agency APL and identify authorized WIC food items.

The West Virginia WIC third party processor, CDP, hosts a test system available 24 hours a day, seven days a week. This test environment may be utilized by integrated retailers and third party processors to assist in testing system changes, upgrades and certification. As system improvements occur, testing should be conducted prior to implementation in the stores to ensure no frontend barriers to conducting WIC transactions. If a large system change occurs, please notify Jim Chilcoat at jim.chilcoat@cdpehs.com and Cindy Tanner at cindy.l.tanner@wv.gov since it may be necessary for the system to be recertified. System certification must occur with CDP as verification of West Virginia WIC EBT capability.

1 1/2% Milk Is Not WIC Approved

1 1/2% light milk is not considered a lowfat milk. Since this item is a reduced fat milk, it cannot be considered for WIC minimum stock requirements or purchased with eWIC benefits.

As a reminder, vendors must carry six (6) gallons of white or chocolate low fat (1%) or fat free (0%) milk to meet minimum stock requirements.



Stay in the Know

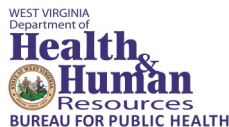
Something is always changing. It could be federal rules, food packaging, or approved foods. The WIC Vendor Management Unit sends communication to corporate offices and independent vendors. It is important to share the information with everyone involved with WIC.

Here are some ways to stay informed:

Website: <http://ons.wvdhhr.org/>

Email: Vendor may contact their Local Agency Vendor Liaison, or send an email to: dhrwicvu@wv.gov

WIC'r Basket Newsletter: The WIC Vendor Unit sends the WIC'r Basket Newsletter quarterly to store owners and independent vendors. The newsletter is also posted on our website. Share WIC'r Basket Newsletters with all employees involved with West Virginia WIC. This includes cashiers, stocking personnel, and office managers.



Jim Justice, Governor
Bill J. Crouch, DHHR Cabinet Secretary
Dr. Rahul Gupta, Commissioner and State Health Officer

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To file a program complaint of discrimination, complete the USDA Program Discrimination Complaint Form, (AD-3027) found online at http://www.ascr.usda.gov/complaint_filing_cust.html, or at any USDA office, or write a letter addressed to USDA and provide in the letter all the information requested in the form. To request a copy of the complaint form, call (866) 632-9992. Submit your completed form or letter to USDA by:

Mail: U.S. Department of Agriculture
Office of the Assistant Secretary for Civil Rights
1400 Independence Avenue, SW
Washington, D.C. 20250-9410;

Fax: (202) 690-7442;
or Email: program.intake@usda.gov

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