

POLICY:

The State Agency has established limiting criteria pursuant to 7 CFR §246.12(e)(2). Special considerations shall be given for participant access pursuant to 7 CFR §246.12(b).

Limiting criteria are those criteria established by the State Agency to determine the maximum number and distribution of vendors to be authorized in its jurisdiction and shall result in a number and geographical distribution of authorized vendors that ensures adequate participant access, and allows for effective State agency management. Limiting criteria are not intended to have any bearing on which specific vendors will be authorized.

The State shall authorize vendors in addition to the established limiting criteria when necessary to ensure adequate participant access, which shall be determined at the State Agency's sole discretion and shall include considerations for such factors as population density, distribution of participants, location of local agencies and clinics, and availability of public transportation and road systems to the WIC population.

PROCEDURE:

- A. The limiting criteria shall be defined as a vendor-to-participant ratio, which shall be set at one (1) vendor per every one-hundred-and-fifty (150) participants (1:150).
- B. The State agency shall make special considerations for participant access. Such determinations shall be made at the State Agency's sole discretion and shall be governed by WV Policy & Procedure 8.03 *Inadequate Participant Access*.