



WIC Flash

News from the Arkansas WIC Program
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Friday, March 30, 2018

eWIC EBT Pilot

Thank you all for attending the EBT eWIC Mandatory Training and making it a success. We met our EBT pilot date of March 12, 2018.

Please keep in mind that you will continue to process WIC checks in this transition phase as well as the eWIC cards depending on which instrument the participant is using.

eWIC Door Sign and eWIC Tagging revision

In the EBT Mandatory Training I said that we would tag you stores prior to roll out statewide. However, the Food Delivery Liasons will tag your store with the new sign and tags as your store completes the Level 3 Certification. Please keep in mind that during the transition phase you will continue to accept WIC Checks and the eWIC Card during the EBT transition phase.

eWIC Level 3 Certifications

The Level 3 Certification process has started. Contact Leslie Foreman and/or Brian Musick regarding your Level 3 Certification. Our goal is to have all stores completed by mid-June 2018. Therefore, it is important for your POS system to be certified if you plan to continue to be an Authorized WIC Vendor. We have over 350 vendors and we cannot wait until May or June to certify or try and certify this many vendors.

Leslie Foreman contact information is Leslie.Foreman@arkansas.gov or phone 501-280-4682.

Brian Musick contact information is Brian.Musick@arkansas.gov or 501-661-2087.

Arkansas eWIC Food List Changes

Low Fat/Fat Free Milk–All Authorized: This includes all Arkansas WIC authorized Fat Free, Skim or Non-Fat milk; Skim or Non-Fat Lactose Free milk; Soy Milk; Low Fat Buttermilk; Acidophilus Milk; Skim evaporated milk; and Non-fat dry milk (25.6 oz. box only)


Whole Milk–All Authorized: This includes all Arkansas WIC authorized Whole milk; Whole Lactose Free milk; Soy Milk; Whole Evaporated milk.

Legumes–All Authorized: This includes all Arkansas WIC Authorized Dried Beans/Peas, Canned Beans/Peas, and/or Peanut Butter.

Arkansas eWIC / WIC Check Changes

Due to EBT pilot, changes have been made to the way we issue beans and peanut butter. As of March 12, 2018, if participants are currently receiving beans, their new checks will allow them to choose between beans and peanut butter. The checks will look like this:

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1      1 LB DRY BEAN OR 4 CANS 14-16 OZ BEAN OR PEANUT BUTTER
1      16-18 OZ JAR PEANUT BUTTER
3      11-12OZ FRZ OR 46-48OZ CAN/BTL JUICE
2      GALLON(S) 1% OR SKIM (FAT FREE) MILK
1      16OZ WHOLE GRAIN BREAD/OATMEAL/TORTILLAS/PASTA/14-16OZ RICE
      XXX END OF ORDER XXX
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Since this change has taken place, we have received calls with concerns and confusion amongst vendors in regards to the amount of peanut butter a participant can purchase. Below is an explanation for the beans and peanut butter.

1 ~ 1 lb. dry bean = One (1) 16 oz. package of dry beans

Or

1 ~ Four (4) 14-16 oz. cans of beans = 4 cans represent 1 unit of beans

Or

1 ~ 14-16 oz. Peanut Butter = One (1) jar of peanut butter

**The quantity for each food item on any WIC Check is to the far left.*

UPC / PLU Request Reminders

As soon as a store is aware there is a WIC approved item that is not scanning, contact the store's IT/Scanning Department and/or management. In order to verify an item is WIC Approved, utilize the WIC Approved Food List and the UPC/PLU list online which can be found in the Vendor Section. If the store's IT/scanning Department cannot verify the item they must contact the EBT/vendor Helpline for assistance at 501-661-2156- Glenn Poteet.

If an item is not already WIC approved, a UPC Request form must be submitted. The UPC request form can be found online <http://www.healthy.arkansas.gov/programs-services/topics/wic-vendor-management>.

- Complete all areas in the Vendor and Product Information Sections.
- Email completed form to ADHWICVendor@Arkansas.gov attach pictures of the actual product label that show the manufacturer, product name, package size, UPC Bar Code, ingredients and the nutrition facts.
- Request forms and pictures may also be mailed to:

APL Manager
Arkansas WIC Program

5800 West 10th Street, Suite 300
Little Rock, AR 72204

Vendor Advisory Committee

The WIC State Office Vendor Section is in the process of reestablishing the Vendor Advisory Committee. We regret that it has been a while since the committee has met. Our WIC State Office has been in the process of hiring and training vendor staff as well as moving to a new location in our building. In addition, we have been working to pilot our eWIC Card. We are looking forward to continuing our partnership in efforts to service our community.

Please RSVP Stacie Torrence at Stacie.Torrence@arkansas.gov or call her at 1-501-661-2177 if you are interested in being on the Vendor Advisory Committee.

If you have questions, please contact the WIC State Office Vendor Section or your Regional FDL.