

eWIC Vendor Team Meeting

January 19th, 2017 at 1:30 pm

Call-in Number: 1-877-336-1831 *Access Code: 8951404*

MINUTES

1. RFPs (Request for Proposals) Update

a. Banking Contract (Solutran) – The banking contract is signed and in place. We will be meeting with Solutran in late February/early March to meet and discuss what all we need from them (JAD session – Joint Application Design).

2. Timeline

a. Pilot Date

i. So, late 2017/early 2018 is still the plan (depending on when we can start the pilot/no later than the 2nd week of October before we have to wait until beginning of 2018). Pilot will take roughly 3 months. Then the USDA/FNS approval may take up to 60 days to approve implementation. Pilot will take place in Miller Co. (Texarkana) and Little River.

b. Implementation

i. A change here. We will be doing a phased rollout of probably 4 phases (Southwest region, Central and Southeast regions, Northeast region, and Northwest region most likely).

3. Vendor Reimbursement

a. The policy has been “completed” again. Now it is in the hands of our USDA/FNS representative to look it over and make sure that it will suffice. Should HOPEFULLY hear something soon on this. We will email a copy and put it on the website below.

4. Arkansas WIC UPC Approval Form/APL

(<http://www.healthy.arkansas.gov/programsServices/WIC/Pages/EBTSystem.aspx>).

The updates/changes have been submitted and should take effect soon. Also, you can send in your UPC requests via spreadsheet as well as on the form on the website. They need an item description, size of container (oz, lb, etc...), the UPC, and product images.

5. Vendor Training and Policy Changes

a. The new vendor manager, Gayla Lanum, is in place and working with staff to get things lined out for the trainings as well as an addendum to the current Vendor Agreement. You will be getting more information on this as we get closer.

6. Split Tender (FNS/USDA mandated)

a. Basically this is what most/all of your stores are doing currently with CVB checks that come in your door. If a participant has an \$11 CVB and has more than \$11 worth of fruits/vegetables, then you apply the \$11 towards the total and they can pay the difference with a separate payment type. This is what Split Tender is. It just hasn't been called that in the check world but is how it will be referenced in the eWIC (WIC EBT/electronic WIC) world. All cash register systems will have to be certified to handle this by October 2017 as mandated by FNS/USDA.

7. eWIC video for clinics: <https://youtu.be/Z7KIQ2Ju1IQ>

a. We made a video that will be played in our clinics that gives general information about the cards as well as shows what the process will look like from getting the card in the clinic to the store transaction. Our hope is that this will make the process a smooth one as the change from check to card happens.

8. Technical Calls

a. Technical calls will take place each month now on. These are being conducted by Leslie Foreman. If you would like to be included on these calls just let us know.

Leslie.Foreman@arkansas.gov

The next scheduled call is February 21st.

9. Questions, Comments, Concerns, Open Floor – If you ever have any questions, please don't hesitate to ask on the call, over a phone call, or via email. We are here to help.

10. Next Meeting/Call

March 16th, 2017

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