

An e-newsletter for Alabama WIC Vendors

Stacey Neumann, Director

Vendor Management Branch

Phone: (334) 206-5673

Email:

stacey.neumann@adph.state.al.us

ATTENTION:

WIC participants can receive Lactose-Free milk without it being "specified" on the food instrument.

Price Maximum List

Alabama WIC vendors were notified through a letter dated January 27, 2014 that the new price maximums became effective February 17, 2014. The letter also stated that the lists were provided as a courtesy and is not to be used to determine a vendor's food item prices.

It is the vendor's responsibility to inform the State WIC Office of any price increases above ten (10) cents. For your convenience, a Price Increase Request Form has been placed on the vendor management web page. Food instruments submitted for payment that are over the maximum price **will be** rejected.

Supplies

If you are in need of any supplies, such as shelf labels, approved foods brochures, or window clings, please contact Maxine Hawthorne at (334) 206-5673.

REMINDER

Due to the implementation of Alabama's new Management Information System and changes in the Federal Regulations, you may see varying amounts of Cash Value Vouchers.

e-WIC is coming!!! Are you ready?

The Alabama WIC Program is moving forward with its plan to replace the current paper food instruments with an electronic card. Electronic Benefits Transfer (EBT) technology is already available and is most commonly associated with SNAP; however, this new technology will soon be available for WIC food benefits. The Alabama WIC Program will be sending written communication to all authorized vendors in the coming months regarding preparations for a 2016 implementation of e-WIC.

To minimize the confusion between SNAP and WIC EBT, Alabama's new food benefit issuance system will be referred to as e-WIC. e-WIC provides a better shopping experience and WIC transactions will be approved at the point of sale. No more rejected food instruments!!!

Cashiers will no longer have to:

- Ensure the participant has selected only WIC approved foods because only the foods on the Approved Product List (APL) will be available for purchase
- Validate the shopper's identity; this is done through the entry of a PIN
- Check the valid dates of use because the system will only allow the purchase of foods that are available on card
- Collect the participant's signature

Stay tuned for more information regarding the implementation of e-WIC.