



MARYLAND VENDOR UPDATE SPRING 2009

A Publication of the Maryland WIC Program
Maryland Department of Health and Mental Hygiene, Family Health Administration
Martin O'Malley, Governor – Anthony G. Brown, Lt. Governor – John M. Colmers, Secretary



IMPORTANT PRODUCT UPDATE



Abbott Nutrition, the manufacturer of Similac Advance®, has announced that beginning in April 2009, it will begin shipping Similac Advance® 13 ounce concentrate and Similac Advance® 12.9 ounce powder under the trade name Similac Advance Early Shield™. The UPC numbers (070074569741 for 13 ounce concentrate and 070074559582 for 12.9 ounce powder) for these products will not change. Additionally, the wording on Maryland WIC checks providing these formulas will remain the same. Similac Advance Early Shield™ in the 23.2 ounce powder size is not allowed for WIC purchase. Abbott Nutrition has also announced the introduction of Similac Sensitive RS, currently only available in ready to use form will now be available in 12.9 ounce powder (UPC 070074509600). WIC customers purchasing Similac Sensitive RS 12.9 ounce powder will have this formula prescribed on their WIC checks. Similac Isomil® is not affected by this product trade name change. If you have any questions, please contact James A. Butler at 410-767-5258, JoAnn McGowen at 410-767-5251, Siwon Lee at 410-767-5433, or 1-800-242-4WIC (4942) toll free.

VENDOR SHELF PRICES



Prices for the second quarter of 2009 are due no later than April 17, 2009. Please remember to provide your price list only on or after the effective date (April 1, 2009)

requested by this office. Chain stores (Giant, Safeway, Wal-Mart, Food Lion, etc.) should not submit price sheets. Your corporate contact will submit prices for your entire chain. If you are responsible for submitting prices, please ensure that your UPC codes conform to the 8, 12, or 13 digit format – do not substitute zeros in place of unknown digits! Registered Currently Authorized Retailers (CART) are required to use the CART online system to submit prices for their stores. If you have any question about shelf price submission, please contact James A. Butler at 410-767-5258 or call 1-800-242-4WIC (4942) toll free.

NEW WIC FOOD PACKAGES

The WIC food packages are changing to better meet the nutritional needs of WIC Participants. Some of the new foods that will be offered are: fruits and vegetables (fresh, frozen, canned), whole grain cereals and breads, baby foods – fruits and vegetables for all infants and meat for exclusively breastfed infants. A phone conference will be held this month to provide additional information. You will be notified of the date and time. Additionally, this office will be sending a series of informational mailings to all vendors as additional information becomes available. The implementation date for the new foods is October 1, 2009. If you have any questions about the new WIC food packages, please contact James A. Butler at 410-767-5258 or call 1-800-242-4WIC (4942) toll free.



2009 CASHIER TRAINING



A schedule of 2009 cashier training dates was sent to all vendors in February. Cashier training is optional and is offered by the WIC Program to help you keep your cashiers properly trained. Please see the upcoming dates provided below.

Kent County	April 6, 2009
Washington County	April 16, 2009
Allegany County	April 22, 2009
State Training Annex (Greenbelt)	April 30, 2009
Baltimore County	May 13, 2009
Baltimore City	May 21, 2009
State Training Annex (Greenbelt)	May 29, 2009
Montgomery County	June 1, 2009

Frederick County	June 9, 2009
Queen Anne's County	June 9, 2009
Cecil County	June 23, 2009
Anne Arundel County	June 29, 2009
Harford County	June 29, 2009
State Training Annex (Greenbelt)	June 30, 2009
Howard County	July 8, 2009

To sign your store up for any of these training dates, please submit the registration form that was included with the 2009 Cashier Training Schedule.

The schedule is also available at www.mdwic.org. You should register at least five days in advance of your selected date. You may also call JoAnn McGowen at 410-767-5251, or Mr. Siwon Lee at 410-767-5433, or call 1-800-242-4WIC (4942) toll free. Please be sure to attend if you register.

VENDOR MAIL

Please be sure to address all correspondence submitted by your store to our complete mailing address:

**Department of Health and Mental Hygiene
Office of the Maryland WIC Program
201 West Preston Street, Room 103
Baltimore, MD 21201**



Failure to use the complete address may result in unnecessary delays for receipt of your mail.

VENDOR FEEDBACK



We want to make your participation in the WIC Program a rewarding experience.

WE NEED YOU! Your input is valued and strongly encouraged. If you have suggestions or comments, please feel free to contact James A. Butler at 410-767-5258 or 1-800-242-4WIC (4942) toll free.

The Vendor Update is a publication of the Maryland WIC Program.

Visit us online at www.mdwic.org

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The Department, in compliance with the Americans With Disabilities Act, ensures that qualified individuals with disabilities are given an opportunity to participate in and benefit from DHMH services, programs, benefits, and employment opportunities.

USDA prohibits discrimination in the administration of its programs.