



VENDOR UPDATE SUMMER 2007

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



WIC Infant Formula

In May all WIC authorized vendors were notified that effective October 1, 2007, Ross Products, a Division of Abbott Laboratories, will be the infant formula rebate contractor for the Maryland WIC Program.

The WIC Program realizes that vendors have limited shelf space and that a transition period will be required in order to accommodate the need for both brands of infant formula. Therefore, during the months of September and October, 2007, the WIC minimum stock requirement of infant formula will be relaxed. However, vendors are expected to use due diligence to meet the needs of WIC customers and supply the brands of infant formula reflected on WIC checks (Do not substitute!). Effective November 1, 2007 the minimum required stock of infant formulas that must be carried by Maryland WIC authorized vendors is as follows:



- 62 13 oz. cans of *Similac Advance w/Iron* Liquid Concentrate
- 10 12.9 oz. cans of *Similac Advance w/Iron* Powder
- 62 13 oz. cans of *Isomil Advance* Liquid Concentrate
- 10 12.9 oz. cans of *Isomil Advance* Powder

You are also reminded that if your store is a retail/pharmacy combination or pharmacy, you are required to provide any WIC infant formula prescribed on a WIC check within 48 hours excluding weekends and holidays. If you have any questions or concerns, please contact James A. Butler at 410-767-5258 or 1-800-242-4WIC (4942) toll free.

2007 WIC Authorized Foods List

The 2007 WIC Authorized Foods List will be distributed to all WIC authorized vendors during the Month of October. The effective date of the new list is October 1, 2007. However, you will be required to honor both lists until January 1, 2008. We will also provide a summary of the changes to the new foods list. If you have any question, please contact this office at 1-800-242-4WIC (4942) toll free.



WIC Authorized Vendor Window Signs

New WIC Authorized Vendor window signs were distributed to all WIC authorized vendors in May. The window sign was updated to reflect the new Governor, Lt. Governor, and Health Secretary. WIC regulations and your Vendor Agreement require your store to post the WIC Authorized Vendor window sign in a conspicuous location at your store. There is no cost for these signs and you may replace them as often as is necessary. If you require window signs, please contact JoAnn McGowen at 410-767-5251 or Deanna Whittington at 410-767-5433 or call 1-800-242-4WIC (4942) toll free.

WIC Vendor Advisory Committee

The first Maryland WIC Vendor Advisory Committee meeting was held on May 30, 2007.



We were very pleased with the number of vendor represented. You will be notified when the next WIC Vendor Advisory Committee meeting will be held. You are also encouraged to offer suggestions for any topics or issues you would like to see covered at these meetings. If you have any questions or need additional information, please contact James A. Butler at 410-767-5258 or 1-800-242-4WIC (4942) toll free.

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2007 Cashier Training Schedule

Thirteen cashier training dates are available this summer. Cashier training is optional and is offered by the WIC Program free of charge to help you keep your cashiers properly trained. Please see the upcoming dates provided below.



July 25	State WIC Office	Sept. 5	Washington County
Aug. 16	Baltimore County	Sept. 10	Queen Anne's County
Aug. 16	Prince George's County	Sept. 12	Garrett County
Aug. 16	Charles County (Southern Maryland WIC)	Sept. 20	Baltimore County
Aug. 31	Anne Arundel County	Sept. 27	Charles County (Southern Maryland WIC)
Aug. 31	Frederick County	Sept. 28	Caroline County (Mid-Shore WIC)
Sept. 5	Allegany County		

To take advantage of this training, please select a date and site your store trainer and/or cashiers would like to attend, complete the registration form and mail or fax it at least 5 days in advance of the training date to:

Office of the Maryland WIC Program
Vendor Operations & Compliance Unit
201 W. Preston Street, Baltimore, MD 21201

We also request that you ensure your personnel attend on the dates requested out of consideration for our Local Agency staff. The fax numbers are 410-333-5683 or 410-333-5243. The schedule is also available online in pdf format at www.mdwic.org. If you have any questions, you may contact your WIC Local Agency, or this office at 410-767-5258 or 1-800-242-4WIC (4942) toll free.

New Product Alert

Kraft has introduced an organic cheddar cheese. This product is not authorized for WIC purchase. Additionally, no organic foods are Maryland WIC authorized.



Bumble Bee has introduced a chunk light tuna packed in water with a splash of lemon juice.

This product is authorized for WIC purchase. If you have any questions about these, or any other food items, please contact this office at 1-800-242-4WIC (4942).



Moving or Selling Your Store?



If you are moving or selling your store, please notify the Maryland WIC Program at least 15 days in advance. **Selling your store does not transfer your WIC authorization!** The new owner must apply to the Maryland WIC Program for authorization. You are also required to return your WIC vendor stamps to the Maryland WIC Program. If you are planning to sell or relocate your store, or have any other questions, please contact JoAnn McGowen at 410-767-5251 Deanna Whittington at 410-767-5433 or 1-800-242-4WIC (4942) toll free.

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.

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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.

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