# Vendor Viewpoint

## February 2023



## **Formula Updates**

Alternate formula brands (Enfamil, Gerber, store brands) that were added to the APL will be removed as of February 28, 2023. Extended Similac formula varieties (larger can sizes, more formula types allowed) will continue to be eligible for purchase through April 30, 2023. Please check the Nevada WIC website for the most up to date information. https://www.nevadawic.org/

If you experience any difficulty getting your formula order filled please let us know by emailing DPBHWICVendor@health.nv.gov.

## **Cash Value Benefit**

The temporary increase in the Cash Value Benefit (CVB) has been extended through September 30, 2023.

- \$25 a month for each child
- \$44 a month for pregnant and postpartum participants
- \$49 a month for breastfeeding participants



### Winter Fruits

Finding seasonal fruits can be expensive and difficult in the winter months. WIC Participants are able to use the Cash Value Benefit (CVB) to purchase fresh, frozen, or canned fruits and vegetables. There are many varieties to choose from!

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## Eggs

Nevada WIC is aware of the difficulties around getting adequate stock of eggs and is temporarily waiving the minimum stocking requirement for eggs. Please submit UPCs for any brands of eggs not already authorized on the Approved Product List, so they may be considered to be added. WIC is unable to authorize organic eggs or eggs with additional nutrients added, such as Eggland's Best. All sizes and grades of eggs, brown or white are currently authorized, in one dozen size cartons.

Egg prices are fluctuating rapidly and the supply seems change quickly. This is a complicated matter caused in part by outbreaks of Avian Flu. We will continue to monitor the situation and welcome any additional egg brands you submit.

### Cereal

Nevada WIC is aligning the APL with USDA recommendations, thus impacting the sizes of cereal available for purchase. Participants may be concerned that they were able to purchase certain cereal sizes previously and now are not able to buy those particular sized boxes. Please help participants locate the correct size box of their favorite brands. Currently the cereal sizes authorized are:

11.8 oz,12 oz,12.1 oz,13 oz,14 oz,15 oz,16 oz,18 oz, 20 oz, 21 oz, 22 oz, 23 oz, 24 oz, 36 oz



#### **Expired Product Returns**

WIC foods purchased are nonreturnable; the exception is for expired or damaged products. Expired or damaged products may be returned for exchange of the identical item with an expiration date in the future.

### Communication

It is vitally important Nevada WIC have current contact information for vendors. Please ensure we have a **valid**, **regularly checked** email address for the store manager and for any corporate level contacts. If the newsletter is to be sent to a particular email address for distribution, please let us know!

### **Customer Service**

WIC Participants are customers for Nevada WIC and also for your store! Every dollar spent on WIC by a participant is money put back into the economy, providing profit for vendors and thus supporting the payroll and benefits for every employee of the store. WIC is cost-free to vendors, and in fact, generates sales beyond WIC foods.

Please be kind and courteous to WIC Participants shopping in your store. If a participant is struggling with understanding why a food item isn't scanning, or why they bought something last month that won't scan this month, please try to help them with the tools provided: Cashier Card, WICShopper App, and the Nevada WIC Shopping Guide. If they are still needing help, have them call the Nevada WIC office using the number on the back of their card. Office staff may be able to resolve the issue on the spot.

# **Vendor Requirements**

- Vendors are required to use the "WIC ACCEPTED HERE" decals provided free of charge by Nevada WIC
  - Decals must be placed prominently on main entrance doors
  - Vendors MAY NOT use the WIC Logo in any other signage or advertising
- Vendors are required to maintain minimum stock of WIC foods unless specifically told the minimum stocking requirement is waived. For a complete list of minimum stocking requirements email the Vendor team at <u>DPBHWICVendor@health.nv.gov</u> or check our website <u>https://nevadawic.org/vendors/training-resource-materials/</u>
- Vendors are required to attend training once annually. Attendance must be verified
- Vendors are required to distribute this newsletter to cashiers and other appropriate staff, and let the vendor coordinator know it has been received and distributed
- Vendors are required to have shelf prices clearly posted on all WIC foods. Shelf tags are not a requirement, but are provided free of charge and are very helpful to participants
- Vendors are required to remove expired foods from inventory
- Check our website for more information

### **Vendor Supplies**

Please notify the Vendor Team at the address below if you have not received a care package containing shelf tags, door decals, cashier cards, and the Nevada WIC Shopping Guide. It is important to keep your mailing address updated with Nevada WIC so you will continue to receive shipments from us. We have received some returns due to incorrect addresses, and want to be sure everyone gets the new items.

Supplies can always be ordered directly from the Nevada WIC website:

https://nevadawic.org/nevada-wic-vendor-supply-orders/

Or call 775-684-5942

Or email <a href="mailto:DPBHWICVendor@health.nv.gov">DPBHWICVendor@health.nv.gov</a>

## WE WANT TO HEAR FROM YOU!

Send your questions to:

Nevada State WIC Program 400 W King St, Ste 300

Carson City, NV 89703

WIC Main Line Phone: 775-684-5942



Evelyn Dryer Vendor Coordinator State of Nevada WIC 400 W. King Street Ste, 300 Carson City, NV 89703 775-684-4270 edryer@health.nv.gov

Fax: 775-684-4246

#### You can find helpful information about the Nevada WIC program requirements at:

http://nevadawic.org/vendors

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To file a program discrimination complaint, a Complainant should complete a Form AD-3027, USDA Program Discrimination Complaint Form which can be obtained online at: <u>https://www.usda.gov/sites/default/</u><u>files/documents/USDA-OASCR%20P-Complaint-Form-0508-0002-508-11-28-17Fax2Mail.pdf</u>, from any USDA office, by calling (866) 632-9992, or by writing a letter addressed to USDA. The letter must contain the complainant's name, address, telephone number, and a written description of the alleged discriminatory action in sufficient detail to inform the Assistant Secretary for Civil Rights (ASCR) about the nature and date of an alleged civil rights violation. The completed AD-3027 form or letter must be submitted to USDA by:

- 1. **Mail:** U.S. Department of Agriculture Office of the Assistant Secretary for Civil Rights 1400 Independence Avenue, SW Washington, D.C. 20250-9410; or
- 2. Fax: (833) 256-1665 or (202) 690-7442; or
- 3. Email: program.intake@usda.gov

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