

PURPOSE: A maximum food package is one of many options available to local agency competent professional authorities (CPA) for selecting a food package for a WIC client. The maximum food package contains the maximum allowable amounts of food for WIC clients in each category and age group.

DEFINITION: A maximum food package contains fixed amounts and types of foods available for each category (refer to Policy 2.01 Eligibility/Certification of Clients):

- IBE - fully breastfed infants (0-5 months and 6-11 months)
- IBP - partially breastfed infants (up to 1 month, 1-3 months, 4-5 months, and 6-11 months)
- IFF - fully formula fed infants (0-3 months, 4-5 months and 6-11 months)
- C1, C2, C3, C4 - children (1 - 4 years)
- PG - pregnant women
- BP - partially breastfeeding women (up to one year postpartum)
- BE - fully breastfeeding women (up to one year postpartum whose infant is not receiving formula),
- NPP – non-lactating postpartum women (up to 6 months postpartum)

A. POLICY:

1. The CPA shall assign a maximum food package to a client unless it is not appropriate. The maximum monthly allowances of all supplemental foods in all food packages must be made available to clients if medically or nutritionally warranted. Reductions in these amounts cannot be made for categories, groups or subgroups of WIC clients. The provision of less than the maximum monthly allowances of supplemental foods to an individual WIC client in all food packages is appropriate only when:
 - a) Medically or nutritionally warranted (e.g., to eliminate a food due to a food allergy);
 - b) A client refuses or cannot use the maximum monthly allowances; or
 - c) The quantities necessary to supplement another program's contribution to fill a medical prescription would be less than the maximum monthly allowances.

If the CPA determines the maximum food package is not appropriate for an individual WIC client, the CPA assigns a food package more appropriate (refer to Policy 7.03 Food Package for Qualifying Conditions or Policy 7.05 Customized Food Package).

2. For fully and partially breastfed infants and fully and partially breastfeeding women, breastfeeding status shall be re-evaluated at each visit and the food package changed as appropriate.
3. A partially breastfed infant's maximum food package is determined by the infant's age. A partially breastfed infant's package shall be customized according to amount of breastfeeding. A fully breastfed infant's package shall not be customized to allow for infant formula.

4. A partially breastfeeding woman will receive the non-lactating postpartum package (NPP) up to 6 months postpartum, if her infant receives more than the maximum amount of formula allowed for a partially breastfed infant.
5. Partially breastfeeding women of multiple infants and pregnant women of multiple fetuses receive the exclusively breastfeeding women package.
6. The maximum monthly food package for exclusively breastfeeding women of multiple infants consists of 1.5 of the maximum monthly food package for exclusively breastfeeding women (Table G). Benefits will be issued alternating months so that one month they receive twice the maximum monthly food package for exclusively breastfeeding women and the next month one times the maximum monthly food package for exclusively breastfeeding women. The schedule will alternate as follows:

Certification Month	Number of Fully Breastfeeding Packages
1	2
2	1
3	2
4	1
5	2
6	1
7	2
8	1
9	2
10	1
11	2
12	1

7. The monthly amounts and types of foods a client will receive when a maximum food package is chosen are shown in Tables 7.04 A to H following the guidance section.
8. Infants receiving powdered formula shall receive at least the maximum reconstituted liquid concentrate amount but no more than the maximum amount of reconstituted powder for the specific age range and category. Refer to Tables 7.04 B and C following the guidance section.

GUIDANCE:

1. The CPA should refer to Policy 7.01 Food Package Determination, for the procedure to use when determining a food package.

Reference:

7 CFR Part 246.10 Special Supplemental Nutrition Program for Women, Infants and Children (WIC): Revision in the WIC Food Packages; Interim Rule December 6, 2007.
 WIC Food Packages: Time For a Change, Committee to Review the WIC Food Packages, Food and Nutrition Board, Institute of Medicine, National Academy of Sciences. National Academies Press, Washington, DC. 2006

Cross Reference:

7.01 Food Package Determination
 7.03 Food Package for Qualifying Conditions
 7.05 Customized Food Package

7.04 TABLE A: MAXIMUM MONTHLY FOOD PACKAGE FOR FULLY BREASTFED INFANTS

Foods	Fully Breastfed Infants 0 – 5 months	Fully Breastfed Infants 6 - 11 months
WIC Formula	0	0
Infant cereal	0	24 oz
Baby food fruits and vegetables	0	256 oz
Baby food meat	0	77.5 oz

7.04 TABLE B: MAXIMUM MONTHLY FOOD PACKAGE FOR PARTIALLY BREASTFED INFANTS

Foods	Partially Breastfed Infants A: During the first month B: 1-3 months C: 4-5 months	Partially Breastfed Infants 6-11 months
WIC Formula	A: Up to 104 fl oz reconstituted powder B: 364 fl oz reconstituted liquid concentrate or 384 fl oz RTF or 435 fl oz reconstituted powder C: 442 fl oz reconstituted liquid concentrate or 448 fl oz RTF or 522 fl oz reconstituted powder	312 fl oz reconstituted liquid concentrate or 320 fl oz RTF or 384 fl oz reconstituted powder
Infant cereal	0	24 oz
Baby food fruits and vegetables	0	128 oz

Note: Refer to Policy 7.01 Food Package Determination.

7.04 TABLE C: MAXIMUM MONTHLY FOOD PACKAGE FOR FULLY FORMULA FED INFANTS

Foods	Fully Formula Fed Infants A: 0-3 months B: 4-5 months	Fully Formula Fed Infants 6-11 months
WIC Formula	A: 806 fl oz reconstituted liquid concentrate or 832 fl oz RTF or 870 fl oz reconstituted powder. B: 884 fl oz reconstituted liquid concentrate or 896 fl oz RTF or 960 fl oz reconstituted powder.	624 fl oz reconstituted liquid concentrate or 640 fl oz RTF or 696 fl oz reconstituted powder.
Infant cereal	0	24 oz
Baby food fruits and vegetables	0	128 oz

7.04 TABLE D: MAXIMUM MONTHLY FOOD PACKAGE FOR CHILDREN

Foods	Children (1 through 4 years)
Juice, single strength	128 fl oz
Milk	13 qt
Cheese*	1 lb
Breakfast cereal	36 oz
Eggs	1 dozen
Fresh fruits and vegetables	\$6.00 cash value
Whole wheat bread/tortillas	2 lb
Legumes Or Peanut butter	1 lb (16 oz.) dry or 64 oz canned Or 18 oz

7.04 TABLE E: MAXIMUM MONTHLY FOOD PACKAGE FOR PREGNANT AND PARTIALLY BREASTFEEDING WOMEN

Foods	Pregnant Women and Partially Breastfeeding Women Up to 1 Year
Juice, single strength	144 fl oz
Milk	19 qt
Cheese*	1 lb
Breakfast cereal	36 oz
Eggs	1 dozen
Fresh fruits and vegetables	\$8.00 cash value
Whole wheat bread/tortillas	1 lb
Legumes And Peanut butter	1 lb (16 oz) dry or 64 oz canned And 18 oz

7.04 TABLE F: MAXIMUM MONTHLY FOOD PACKAGE FOR POSTPARTUM WOMEN

Foods	Postpartum Women and Breastfeeding Women of Infants Receiving more than the Maximum amount of Formula for Partially Breastfed Infants (Up to 6 Months).
Juice, single strength	96 fl oz
Milk, fluid	13 qt
Cheese*	1 lb
Breakfast cereal	36 oz
Eggs	1 dozen
Fresh fruits and vegetables	\$8.00 cash value
Legumes Or Peanut butter	1 lb (16 oz) dry or 64 oz canned Or 18 oz

7.04 TABLE G: MAXIMUM MONTHLY FOOD PACKAGE FOR EXCLUSIVELY BREASTFEEDING WOMEN

Foods	Fully Breastfeeding Women and Partially Breastfeeding Women of Multiple Infants Up to 1 Year Postpartum and Pregnant Women of Multiple Fetuses
Juice, single strength	144 fl oz
Milk, fluid	18 qt
Breakfast cereal	36 oz
Cheese*	3 lb
Eggs	2 dozen
Fresh fruits and vegetables	\$10.00 cash value
Whole wheat bread/tortillas	1 lb
Fish (canned)	30 oz
Legumes And Peanut butter	1 lb (16 oz) dry or 64 oz canned And 18 oz

*Note: Maximum amount of cheese allowed without medical documentation.