

MI-WIC POLICY *Food Benefit Issuance/EBT Card Security*

8.0 Food Benefit Issuance

Effective Date: 10/1/09

8.06 Client Education on Using Food Benefits

PURPOSE: To define the information components that need to be provided to clients on the Michigan WIC Program who receive food benefits using the Michigan WIC Bridge Card.

A. POLICY

1. The local agency shall provide authorized person with information on:
 - a. WIC foods
 - b. Michigan WIC food card
 - c. Shopping list
 - d. Cash transactions
 - i. For fruits and vegetables, clients will be responsible for cost greater than the cash value benefit.
 - ii. No other cash shall be exchanged between client and vendor, with the exception of promotions. (See Policy 8.07 Manufacturers' and Stores' Sales Promotions)
2. For new certifications and out-of-state transfers, the local agency must inform the authorized person how to use the Michigan WIC Bridge Card and provide a vendor listing.
3. At recertification, ask the client or authorized person if there have been any problems using the WIC food benefits. If yes, provide the appropriate information.
4. A proxy may be provided information about WIC food benefits and how to use the WIC Bridge Card. Refer to 8.03 Proxy Policy for more information about the proxy.
5. If improper WIC benefit or Michigan WIC Bridge Card use has been identified, review with the client, authorized person or proxy, the Michigan WIC Cardholder Training Brochure or WIC Food Card. Refer to Policy 9.01, Client Compliance for information on identification of potential client abuse, sanctions and required documentation. (See Policy 2.18A Michigan WIC Client Agreement)

B. GUIDANCE

1. Resources available to assist with client education include:
 - a. WIC Eligible Foods/WIC Food card
 - b. Michigan WIC Bridge card DVD and materials
 - c. Shopping List
 - d. WIC Vendor List
 - e. Informational material including Overview of New WIC Foods, Fresh Fruits and Vegetables, Whole Grain Bread and Tortillas, WIC Foods for Pregnancy, etc.

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2. If the Michigan WIC Bridge Card DVD or video is shown to the client or authorized person, complete the information by reviewing:
 - a. WIC Vendor List/where to use the Michigan WIC Bridge Card
 - b. Michigan WIC Bridge Card Help Card
 - c. WIC Food Card
 - d. Shopping List

Reference: WIC Federal Regulations: 7 CFR 246.12

Cross-reference:

- 2.18A Michigan WIC Client Agreement
- 8.07 Manufacturers' and Stores' Sales Promotions
- 8.03 Proxy Policy
- 9.01 Client Compliance