

Dear WIC Vendor,

In response to food supply and demand issues caused by the COVID-19 state of emergency, the Michigan WIC Program has implemented a series of food expansions to the WIC approved product list (APL), described below. In order for your store to transact food items covered by these expansions, it is necessary for your POS system to access the most up-to-date APL. For WIC stand-alone POS devices, your APL is automatically uploaded daily by Conduent; for integrated systems, your Third Party Processor will update your APL. Both expansions are designed to:

- 1) Increase the variety and accessibility of WIC-approved foods for clients;
- 2) Provide additional shelf-stable food choices; and
- 3) Reduce the number of trips WIC clients must make to purchase needed groceries.

On April 1, 2020, the Program expanded the options available for bread, oatmeal, pasta, tortillas, cereal, infant cereal, infant fruits and vegetables, infant meats, beans, yogurt, cheese, and soy beverages.

Beginning June 1, 2020, the Michigan WIC Program is further expanding the APL to allow WIC clients to use their fruit and vegetable Cash Value Benefits (CVBs) to purchase frozen and canned fruits and vegetables.

This change will take affect for WIC customers on their June benefits start date. Therefore, this option will not become active for all clients on the same day. -Frozen and canned fruits and vegetables will be made available for women and children over 1 year of age. Caregivers of children under 1 year of age will still be able to purchase fresh fruits and vegetables, but their benefits cannot be used for frozen and canned fruits and vegetables.

Because frozen and canned items are eligible for purchase with the same benefit used to buy fresh fruits and vegetables, please keep in mind the following:

- 1) Vendors **should** scan the UPC for frozen/canned items when conducting a WIC transaction.
- 2) Vendors **should not** scan the UPC for fresh fruits and vegetables. (Note: Use the actual PLU or #44691 for fresh produce.)
- 3) The **Split Tender Policy** applies to frozen/canned vegetables as well. CVBs will be charged and the client should be allowed to pay any remaining costs for WIC-approved fruits and vegetables.

More information regarding these expansions is included as an attachment to this email and can be found on our website at Michigan.gov/WICVendor.

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