

Dear Vendor,

We know that the COVID-19 pandemic has brought many challenges, from sourcing WIC-authorized products and keeping your shelves stocked, to ensuring the safety of your family, employees and customers.

If during this time you feel the need to temporarily close your store for any period of time, please notify the Michigan WIC Program immediately, but no later than 21 calendar days from the date of temporary closure, as required by your [WIC Vendor Contract](#), Section III, Paragraph 15. You may notify us by calling **517-335-8937** or by email at MDHHS-WICVendor@michigan.gov.

Temporary closure of your store will not lead to termination of your WIC Vendor Contract. However, we will temporarily disable your point-of-sale (POS) device so that WIC clients have access to the most up-to-date list of WIC-authorized Vendors. Once your store is re-opened, simply notify the Michigan WIC Program and you will be re-enabled in the system and again able to conduct WIC transactions.

Thank you also to Vendors that responded to the COVID-19 survey sent last week. We appreciate your feedback and are pleased to hear that the majority of those who completed the survey are not facing issues with sourcing and stocking WIC-authorized foods. Please see below for a summary of the responses:

The hardest to source foods: eggs, milk and bread.

The most common strategies Vendors used to meet customer demand: purchasing foods from multiple distributors and setting quantity limits for shoppers.

Steps taken to ensure clients were able to get needed items: increasing store inventory, keeping extra formula at the checkout counter or in the back of the store, and setting quantity limits.

The main concerns of Vendors: maintaining minimum stock, reimbursement by WIC, and personal safety.

Additionally, if you are finding it difficult to maintain minimum stock and source WIC-authorized foods, the WIC Program has put together a Michigan [Wholesaler List](#) (attached) for your convenience.

The Michigan WIC Program is committed to supporting Vendors during this difficult time, so please do not hesitate to reach out to the Vendor Relations Unit at 517-335-8937 or by email at MDHHS-WICVendor@michigan.gov. For resources and more information about WIC and COVID-19, please visit https://www.michigan.gov/mdhhs/0,5885,7-339-71547_4910_6329-523991--,00.html.