



## WIC Vendor Selection Criteria

Effective: July 1, 2021

Based on store designation, WIC Vendors and WIC Vendor applicants are required to meet the following criteria for authorization:

A. All Vendors (Grocer; Grocer with Pharmacy; Pharmacy):

- i. Compliance with competitive prices and price limitations as determined by the Department.
- ii. Lack of any conflict of interest between the Vendor and the local agency or the Department as defined by applicable State laws, regulations and policies.
- iii. Business integrity as determined by the Department. Unless denying authorization of a Vendor applicant would result in inadequate participant access, the Department will not authorize a Vendor applicant if during the past six years the Vendor applicant or any of the Vendor applicant's current owners, officers, or managers have been convicted of or had a civil judgment entered against them for any activity indicating a lack of business integrity. Activities indicating a lack of business integrity include, but are not limited to, fraud, antitrust violations, embezzlement, theft, forgery, bribery, falsification or destruction of records, making false statements, receiving stolen property, making false claims, and obstruction of justice.
- iv. Compliance history with WIC program policies, rules and regulations, as applicable, and compliance with any prior contract with the Department. In the case of stores owned jointly or by corporations, the Department may evaluate past performance of one or more of the same partners, shareholders, directors or officers at other locations.
- v. Lack of negative history indicating the store was sold by its previous owner in an attempt to circumvent a WIC sanction. The Department will consider such factors as to whether the store was sold to a relative by blood or marriage of the previous owner(s) or sold to an individual or organization for less than its fair market value. The Department may also consider other factors in making its determination.
- vi. A Vendor's total WIC sales for any annual period that do not exceed 50% of the Vendor's total annual food sales.
- vii. Vendors must only purchase infant formula from wholesalers, distributors, and retailers licensed by the Michigan Department of Agriculture and Rural Development (MDARD) or from infant formula manufacturers registered with the Food and Drug Administration.

B. Full-line Vendors (Grocer; Grocer with Pharmacy)

- i. Availability of mandatory minimum stock of WIC-approved foods. (See WIC Vendor Minimum Stock Requirements.)
- ii. Variety of available WIC-approved foods and accessibility of a store to WIC participants.
- iii. Documented authorization in the Supplemental Nutrition Assistance Program (SNAP). A WIC Vendor must be in good standing with the USDA Food and Nutrition Service.
- iv. Valid license issued by the Michigan Department of Agriculture & Rural Development (MDARD).
- v. Minimum required volume of WIC transactions. A Vendor that transacts less than \$1,200 in WIC EBT transactions per fiscal quarter will be considered a low volume Vendor and may indicate lack of demand for that particular store. Vendors will receive a warning the first quarter they are found out compliance with this requirement. If not in compliance with the requirement following a six (6) month evaluation [that is 3 months after receiving the initial warning], the Vendor will be terminated and disqualified. New Vendors will be evaluated after the first full fiscal quarter of authorization.

C. Pharmacy Vendors (Grocer with Pharmacy; Stand-alone Pharmacy)

- i. Availability of mandatory minimum stock for specified formulas. (See WIC Vendor Minimum Stock Requirements.)
- ii. Valid Pharmacy License and good standing with the Department of Licensing and Regulatory Affairs (LARA).