

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

8.0 Food Benefit Issuance/EBT Card Security

Effective Date: 9/9/2020

8.02 Benefit Proration

PURPOSE: Provide standards for proration of food benefits when issued for a partial month.

A. POLICY

1. Food benefits shall be made available for the current month, regardless of Benefit Start Date (BSD) (See Policy 8.0, Benefit Issuance).
2. Food benefit proration shall apply to the current month's food package. If more than one month issued, proration applies only to the first month.
3. A full food package is issued within 10 days of the current month's BSD. If a client has benefits issued after this period, the food benefits will be prorated according to this schedule:

1st Proration 11 to 20 days after BSD– 2/3 package issued

2nd Proration 21 days or more after BSD - 1/3 package issued

4. Prorated food benefits provide at least one food from each of the allowable food categories according to the client's status (See Policy 8.01, Benefit Issuance). When prorating, the following foods are not reduced below the maximum quantities:
 - a. Cereal
 - b. Peanut butter, canned and dry beans
 - c. Fruits and vegetables (cash value benefit)
 - d. Whole Grains
 - e. Yogurt
5. Local agencies may disable proration in the following circumstances:
 - a. Custody change when benefits are unavailable, especially foster children (See 8.04, Replacement of Food Benefits)
 - b. Scheduling errors
 - c. System interruption
 - d. Unexpected clinic closure or staff unavailable to load benefits
 - e. After documented disaster (e.g., tornado, fire, or flood) where benefits are no longer available.

Reference:

Federal Regulations: 7 CFR 246.12 (r)

Cross-Reference:

8.01 Benefit Issuance

8.04 Replacement of Food Benefits