



Michigan WIC Similac Formula Transition Questions and Answers

Starting March 1, 2023, Michigan WIC will only be offering Similac brand formulas.

- 1. Why is Michigan WIC only able to provide Similac standard infant formula?**
 - WIC is required to award the infant formula contract to one manufacturer with the best rebate. The more WIC saves on the cost of formula, the more clients WIC can serve. The national formula shortage has improved and Similac formulas are now available in Michigan stores.
- 2. Are formula brands the same?**
 - All standard infant formulas for healthy babies meet the same high standards for quality and provide the same nutrition. Also, each brand offers formulas to meet your child's needs.
- 3. My child is doing well on a non-Similac brand formula. Do I have to change formulas?**
 - Yes, you will have to change to Similac formulas starting on March 1, 2023. WIC will no longer be providing non-Similac brand formulas. We understand this change may feel scary. Please know, most babies do well on all standard infant formulas as they are very similar in quality and nutrition. WIC staff will work with you to help make this change as smooth as possible.
- 4. When I change my child's formula, what should I expect?**
 - It is normal that a child may experience some minor symptoms when changing formulas. For example, a child's stool may look or smell different, or you may notice some spit-up. If you have concerns, please contact your WIC Clinic.
 - Please contact your child's health care provider if you see symptoms like a rash, diarrhea, constipation, or vomiting.
- 5. My child did not tolerate Similac formula before. Will they have problems now?**
 - Your baby is continuing to grow and develop every day and may have outgrown problems with Similac formula. If you have concerns once starting Similac, contact your child's health care provider.
- 6. Will my child get the same amount of formula?**
 - Yes, WIC provides formula amounts based on your child's age, not the formula brand.
- 7. I've seen other sizes of Similac formula in the store. Is it possible to get my formula in another size?**
 - If the small WIC-size (12.4-12.6 oz) Similac formulas are not available, WIC will continue to provide other sizes of Similac formulas until May 1, 2023. After May 1, only the small WIC-size Similac formulas will be available.
- 8. My family receives another specialty formula from WIC. Will we have to change to something else?**
 - If someone in your family receives a specialty formula that requires a doctor's note, they can still receive that formula.
- 9. I've been using Enfamil AR since the formula recall/formula shortage. What do I do now that I need to use only Similac formulas?**
 - Michigan WIC will continue to offer Enfamil AR to clients with a doctor's note starting March 1. Please contact your health care provider should your infant require Enfamil AR.
- 10. Is Similac formula safe?**
 - Check out Similac's website to see how they keep the formula safe:
 - [How Formulas are Made/Quality Process](#)
 - [What Parents Want to Know/Common Questions](#)
- 11. What if I have questions or concerns about this transition?**
 - Contact your [local WIC clinic](#) with any questions or concerns.