COVID-19 INFORMATION FOR MICHIGAN WIC FAMILIES

All WIC services remain available to new and current clients, statewide.

Because the safety and health of your family is WIC's top priority, your local WIC clinic may be closed to the public during the pandemic. You may contact your local WIC clinic to see how they can help serve you from your home.

To find your local WIC clinic, you may:

- Call or visit <u>211</u>.
- Download the WIC Connect mobile app (available for Android and iPhone).
- Visit the <u>Michigan WIC Client Connect</u> online portal.
- Visit the Michigan WIC Clinic Directory.

Can I still get my benefits if my WIC clinic is closed?

Yes. WIC is currently able to certify new clients over the phone. Current clients may have their benefits added to their WIC EBT cards remotely.

What if I can't reach anyone at my local WIC clinic?

If you reach a voicemail when contacting your clinic, please be sure to listen to the entire recorded message and request a call back. Clinic staff will respond to you as soon as they are able.

If you have an urgent matter and have not yet received a call back, you may call the Michigan WIC Division at 1-800-942-1636. Select option 1, then option 2 to speak with a WIC staff person.

What if my usual grocery store is out of my WIC foods or infant formula?

As of April 1, 2020, Michigan WIC families now have more choices at the store.

If you can't find your WIC foods at your regular grocery store, please use the WIC Connect mobile app or <u>Michigan WIC Client Connect</u> to find another WIC grocery store nearby.

If you cannot find your WIC infant formula in grocery stores, please contact your local WIC clinic and ask for help. It is not safe to make your own infant formula at home.

To submit a vendor complaint, please email <u>MDHHS-WICVendor@michigan.gov</u> with the food item(s) that you were not able to find, as well as the name and location of the store.

Is it safe to breastfeed during the COVID-19 outbreak?

Please refer to the following resources for the most up-to-date information: <u>American Academy of Pediatrics Breastfeeding During COVID-19 Pandemic</u> World Health Organization Q&A on COVID-19 and Breastfeeding

Where can I get breastfeeding support?

During this uncertain time, it is extremely important that our WIC families continue to receive breastfeeding support. If you are unable to reach your local agency peer counselor for support, please call 833-MIWICBF or 833-649-4223.

Who can get WIC and how do I sign up?

If you are pregnant, have just had a baby or have children under 5 years old, WIC is here to help! WIC provides healthy foods, breastfeeding support and other resources.

If you are a new WIC client, please contact your local WIC clinic to schedule an appointment.

What other food resources exist in my community?

Local food pantries may provide help.

Many <u>Summer Food Service Program sites</u> have remained **open** because of COVID-19. On the interactive map, click the green fork and knife icon for the site you'd like to visit. You will then be able to view that site's detailed information to the left of the map. Please call before visiting to make sure the site is open.

Where can I find information on healthy eating?

Your <u>local WIC clinic</u> has nutrition staff who can answer your questions and give you tips on choosing healthy foods.

The <u>Academy of Nutrition and Dietetics</u> has many helpful nutrition-related articles.

<u>ChooseMyPlate</u> has information on meal planning during the pandemic.