

California WIC Quarterly Vendor Stakeholder Webinar

Thursday, August 19, 2021 | 10:30 A.M.



**Please type your name and company
information in the Chat.**



Today's Agenda

Webinar Topics

- | | |
|--|--|
| • Welcome, Statistics, and Vendor Poll | Lantrel Stockton, VMB |
| • Minimum Stocking Requirements | Portia High, VMB |
| • Routine Monitoring Visits | Portia High, VMB |
| • WIC Authorized Product List (APL) Requirements | Jodi Truscott, VMB |
| • Cage-Free Eggs Update | Melanie Hancock, CDPH/WIC
Food Package Unit |
| • VWIX – Shelf Price Submission | Portia High, VMB |
| • Summer CVB Fruits & Vegetable Benefit Increase | Michelle Wilkins, VMB |
| • Closing | Lantrel Stockton, VMB |

**Next Vendor Stakeholder Webinar:
Thursday, December 2, 2021**

Vendor Statistics

Lantrel Stockton, Chief
Vendor Management Branch



California WIC Vendor Statistics*

- Approximately 3,800 California WIC authorized vendors
- 380,000 WIC Card purchase transactions per week
- 1 millionth California WIC Card issued in mid-July
- 1 billionth dollar spent via California WIC Card in mid-July



* Statistics through July 2021

Vendor Feedback Requested



Which WIC Materials does your store use the most?

- a) WIC Posters
- b) WIC Window Decals
- c) WIC Shelf-Talkers
- d) WIC Shopping Guide brochures

Please type your answer(s) in the Chat

Can answer with more than one

Minimum Stocking Requirements

Portia High, Chief
Vendor Intake Unit



Minimum Stocking Requirements

- In addition to the Temporary WAFL and Temporary APL no longer being available as of June 1, 2021 with the return to authorizing regular WIC foods, authorized vendors will be accountable for maintaining the Minimum Stocking Requirements.
- Information on Minimum Stocking Requirements can be found in the “Grocers” area of the WIC website at www.wicworks.ca.gov. Click on “Grocers,” then “Authorized Vendors,” then “Resources” to locate the PDF document link.

EFFECTIVE JANUARY 5, 2020 MINIMUM STOCKING REQUIREMENTS	
Refer to the WIC Authorized Food List Shopping Guide, April 2, 2019, for product specifications and WIC Bulletin Regulation 71100 for regulation detail	
<p>FOOD CATEGORY: BOTTLED JUICE AND CONCENTRATE JUICE (8) 64-ounce bottles of authorized shelf-stable juice OR (10) 11.5 or 12-ounce containers of authorized frozen juice concentrate</p>	<p>FOOD CATEGORY: FRUITS AND VEGETABLES Forty dollars (\$40) worth of a combination of: (5) varieties of authorized fresh fruits (5) varieties of authorized fresh vegetables AND Any combination of at least forty dollars (\$40) worth of (3) varieties of authorized canned or frozen fruits AND Any combination of at least forty dollars (\$40) worth (3) varieties of authorized canned or frozen vegetables *Different packaging or cuts of the same fruit or vegetable are NOT considered a variety</p>
<p>FOOD CATEGORY: BREAKFAST CEREAL At least (144) total ounces of any (4) different types or brands of authorized cereal. Of the total ounces, (1) type must be a (12) ounce size box and (1) type must be an (18) ounce size box. Two of the types or brands must be listed as cereals which contain (51%) or more whole grain by weight in the WIC Authorized Food List and Shopping Guide.</p>	<p>FOOD CATEGORY: INFANT CEREAL (2) 18-ounce containers AND (2) 8-ounce containers of any authorized brand and type of infant cereal</p>
<p>FOOD CATEGORY: CANNED FISH Tuna.....(12) 5-ounce cans of authorized types of tuna OR Sardines.....(4) 15-ounce cans of authorized types of sardines OR Salmon.....(12) 5-ounce cans of authorized types of salmon OR (10) 6-ounce cans OR (4) 14.75-ounce cans OR Mackerel.....(4) 15-ounce cans authorized types of mackerel</p>	<p>FOOD CATEGORY: INFANT FORMULA Authorized primary contract brand milk-based infant formula in powdered form: (20) authorized size containers..... (10) on the shelf, and (10) on the premises.</p>
<p>FOOD CATEGORY: CHEESE (4) 16-ounce packages of any combination of authorized types of cheese</p>	<p>FOOD CATEGORY: INFANT FRUITS AND VEGETABLES (56) authorized 4-ounce containers of infant fruits and vegetables</p>
<p>FOOD CATEGORY: DRY BEANS, PEAS OR LENTILS (6) 16-ounce packages of any combination of authorized dry beans, peas or lentils</p>	<p>FOOD CATEGORY: PEANUT BUTTER (4) 16 to 18-ounce containers of authorized types of peanut butter</p>
<p>FOOD CATEGORY: EGGS (4) one dozen containers of authorized types of eggs</p>	<p>FOOD CATEGORY: FRESH BANANAS (8) authorized fresh yellow bananas</p>
<p>FOOD CATEGORY: MILK (6) one gallon containers of authorized fluid whole milk AND (14) one gallon containers of any combination of 2% reduced fat, 1% low fat or nonfat authorized fluid milk..... (10) on the shelf and (4) on the premises AND (2) half-gallon containers of any combination of 2% reduced fat, 1% low fat or nonfat authorized fluid milk</p>	<p>FOOD CATEGORY: WHOLE GRAIN (2) 16-ounce packages of 100% whole wheat bread loaves AND any combination of (4) pounds of: (2) 16-ounce packages of soft corn tortillas (white or yellow) OR (2) 16-ounce packages of oatmeal or oats OR (2) 16-ounce packages of brown rice OR (2) 16-ounce packages of whole-wheat pasta</p>



Routine Monitoring Visits

Portia High, Chief
Vendor Intake Unit



Virtual Routine Monitoring (RMVs)

- All WIC state agencies are required to conduct Routine Monitoring Visits (RMVs) at WIC authorized stores.
- California WIC is currently conducting virtual RMVs.
- Virtual RMVs are conducted over the phone.
- WIC staff are gathering information from vendors regarding:
 - Minimum stocking requirements.
 - Store register count
 - Other questions as necessary to conduct the RMV
- Vendors will be required to email health permits, infant formula invoices, and any other requested documents to the WIC analyst after the virtual RMV is conducted.



Authorized Product List (APL) Vendor Requirements

Jodi Truscott, Senior Health Program Specialist
Vendor Management Branch



Authorized Product List (APL) Overview and Vendor Requirements

- **Authorized Product List (APL)** – An electronic list of authorized food products provided to WIC vendors by the WIC State Agency (California WIC).
- **California WIC Vendor Agreement** – Specifies vendor authorization criteria and requirements, including maintaining the APL.
 - Article III – Vendor Responsibilities
 - 2(g-h) – Equipment and Technology Requirements



Authorized Product List (APL) Overview and Vendor Requirements (continued)

- Vendors must retrieve the APL file on each processing day (excludes Sat/Sun/Holidays) and apply the APL to the store's POS system within 48 hours of the APL's file creation date and time.
- Refer to the CA WIC Vendor Agreement for detailed vendor APL requirements.
- An electronic copy of the vendor agreement is located at <https://www.cdph.ca.gov/Programs/CFH/DWICSN/Pages/Grocers/NewVendors.aspx>



Authorized Product List (APL) Overview and Vendor Requirements (continued)

If the store's WIC POS system does not have the most current version of the APL:

- WIC shoppers may be unable to purchase newly authorized food items.
- Transactions may reject at the register.
- CDPH/WIC monitors failed transactions.
- Potential violation of the terms of your WIC Vendor Agreement.



Authorized Product List (APL) Overview and Vendor Requirements (continued)

- **Stores with Integrated POS Equipment**
 - Receive electronic APL files from your corporate IT team or POS Provider.
 - Contact your corporate office or POS Equipment Provider for technical support.
- **Stores with FIS Stand Beside POS Terminals**
 - Must leave the POS terminals powered-on overnight to electronically receive the updated APL file.
 - Contact FIS Help Desk at (833) 257-2165, or access the FIS online portal ebtEDGE for technical support.



WIC Authorized Food List Update

Cage-Free Eggs

Melanie Hancock, Health Program Specialist
Food Package Unit



WIC Authorized Food List Update: Cage-Free Eggs

- WIC Regulatory Bulletin 2021-01 goes into effect on September 1, 2021.
 - Authorizes cage-free eggs.
 - Requires all eggs sold within California to WIC participants have all legally required labeling, markings, or statements on the container or package.
- Changes are a result of Proposition 12: The Farm Animal Confinement Initiative, which requires all eggs sold within California to come from cage-free hens by January 1, 2022.



WIC Authorized Food List Update: Cage-Free Eggs

- APL will be updated on September 1, 2021:
 - Cage-free egg UPCs will be added
 - Regular egg UPCs will remain authorized
- APL will be updated again on January 1, 2022:
 - Regular egg UPCs will be removed
 - Only cage-free eggs will be authorized
- Send cage-free egg UPC submissions to WICFoods@cdph.ca.gov.



VWIX - Shelf Price Submission

Portia High, Chief
Vendor Intake Unit



VWIX – Shelf Price Submission

- All vendors are required to submit shelf prices into VWIX for the 11 Market Basket items twice a year.
- Notification is sent by Vendor Alert of when the Shelf Price Submission period begins and ends. The Shelf Price Submission periods typically occur in January and June each year.
- For assistance with VWIX logins, contact the WIC Vendor Help Desk at (855) 942-7867, or email WICVendorInfo@cdph.ca.gov.



Summer CVB Fruits & Vegetable Benefit Increase

Michelle Wilkins, Chief
Vendor Operations Section



Fruits & Vegetable Increase

- CDPH/WIC temporarily increased the Cash-Value Benefit (CVB) for women and children to \$35 per person per month.
- This increase started in June and will continue through September 2021.
- Refer to Vendor Alert 2021-02 for additional information.



Vendor Feedback Requested

Which WIC Materials does your store use the most?

- a) WIC Posters
- b) WIC Window Decals
- c) WIC Shelf-Talkers
- d) WIC Shopping Guide Brochures



Please type your answer(s) in the Chat

****Can answer with more than one****



Today's webinar slides will be posted on the CDPH/WIC website.

CA WIC Vendor Help Desk

Email: WICVendorInfo@cdph.ca.gov

Phone: (855) 942-7867

www.wicworks.ca.gov

Next Vendor Stakeholder Webinar

Thursday, December 2, 2021

