



State of California—Health and Human Services Agency  
California Department of Public Health



ARNOLD SCHWARZENEGGER  
Governor

June 24, 2009

**VENDOR ALERT 2009-09**

TO: ALL WIC VENDORS

SUBJECT: NEW FOOD PACKAGE VENDOR MINIMUM STOCKING REQUIREMENT

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**Purpose**

I am writing to provide you the California Women, Infants, and Children (WIC) Program's new revised Vendor Minimum Stocking Requirement (enclosed). This revised minimum stocking requirement will be effective on October 1, 2009 for all authorized vendors; the current minimum stocking requirement remains in effect through September 30, 2009.

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**Background**

The WIC Program's authorized food packages for participants are changing. In addition to participants receiving new foods such as whole grains, low fat milk, and fruits and vegetables, participants will receive different quantities of some foods in their current food packages. The minimum stocking requirement was revised to reflect these changes.

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**What's New**

The new minimum stocking requirement includes stocking new types of foods including fresh fruits and vegetables, whole grains, and infant foods. The new requirement will increase the minimum stocking amounts for infant formula, tuna, and milk; and decrease the minimum stocking amount for cheese, eggs, and juice. Also, vendors are currently required to stock every flavor of juice in either shelf stable or frozen concentrate form. Under the new stocking requirements, vendors will have no stocking requirement regarding juice flavors.

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**What Has Not Changed**

As you are already aware, the minimum stocking requirement is an authorization criterion which must be continually met in order to become and remain an authorized WIC vendor. Every authorized vendor must stock each food category and quantity according to the Vendor Minimum Stocking Requirement. However, vendors are not required to stock every single food item eligible for purchase with a food instrument. Additionally, there are choices within certain food categories (e.g., Whole Grain) allowing vendors to decide how they can meet the minimum stocking requirement.

Vendors are responsible to know their clientele and to ensure that their shelves are sufficiently stocked to meet the minimum stocking requirements at all times, regardless of how many participants shop at their store. Food items cannot be in storage, or on-order awaiting delivery, but must be maintained on their shelves at all times.



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**Refer to the  
WIC  
Authorized  
Food List  
(WAFL)**

For detailed information regarding the new WIC authorized foods and product specifications, please refer to the proposed WIC Authorized Food List (WAFL). The proposed WAFL is accessible on WIC's website at [www.wicworks.ca.gov](http://www.wicworks.ca.gov).

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**Stocking  
Requirement  
Certification**

Within the next month, all vendors will be receiving a new Vendor Minimum Stocking Requirement Certification form along with a revised Vendor Agreement. The revised certification form will include the information specified in the enclosed Vendor Minimum Stocking Requirement document and will require the vendor to sign and certify that they agree to continually maintain the minimum stocking amounts. The minimum stocking requirement is a part of vendor authorization criteria. Pursuant to federal regulations and their Vendor Agreement a vendor must comply with all authorization criteria, including any changes, during the term of their Vendor Agreement. Failure to do so would be grounds for termination of their Vendor Agreement and denial of authorization to accept and redeem food instruments.

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**Transition  
Period**

On October 1, 2009, vendors will be required to comply with the new minimum stocking requirements and WIC local agency sites will begin issuing food instruments (FI) reflecting the new food package too all participants.

WIC local agencies are permitted to issue participants their food instruments for a period of one to three months. Because of this triple issuance, there will be a transition period where a vendor may receive food instruments for currently authorized food items and also receive food instruments for newly authorized food items. Because September 30, 2009 is the last day that WIC local agencies will be printing and issuing food instruments reflecting the currently authorized foods, this transition period will be from October through December 2009. As always, vendors are required to only sell the food items that are authorized for purchase on the food instrument.

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**Questions**

If you have any questions regarding the minimum stocking requirement, please contact your WIC Vendor Consultant directly or call (916) 928-8705.

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David Markell, Chief  
Vendor Management Branch  
California WIC Program

**EFFECTIVE OCTOBER 1, 2009**  
**VENDOR MINIMUM STOCKING REQUIREMENT**

*Refer to the WIC Authorized Food List for product specifications*

<p><b>FOOD CATEGORY: MILK</b></p> <p>Whole (plain, fluid)..... (3) one gallons and  (1) half gallon</p> <p align="center"><b><u>AND</u></b></p> <p>2% or 1% or nonfat  (plain, fluid) ..... (8) one gallons and  (2) half gallons and  (1) quart</p>	<p><b>FOOD CATEGORIES: BOTTLED JUICE AND  CONCENTRATE JUICE</b></p> <p>Any authorized flavor..... (3) 11.5 or 12-ounce  concentrate juice</p> <p align="center"><b><u>AND</u></b></p> <p>Any authorized flavor..... (2) 64-ounce bottled juice</p> <p align="center"><b>OR</b></p> <p>(2) 16-ounce concentrate  juice</p>
<p><b>FOOD CATEGORY: CHEESE</b></p> <p>..... (3) 1 pound packages of  any combination of  authorized types</p>	<p><b>FOOD CATEGORY: FRUITS AND VEGETABLES</b></p> <p>Fresh only..... \$16 worth of a  combination of 2 varieties  of fruits and 2 varieties of  vegetables</p>
<p><b>FOOD CATEGORY: EGGS</b></p> <p>..... 3 dozen</p>	<p><b>FOOD CATEGORY: INFANT FRUITS AND VEGETABLES</b></p> <p>..... (64) 4-ounce containers</p> <p align="center"><b>OR</b></p> <p>(37) 2 – 3.5 ounce packs  (Net Wt 7 oz)</p>
<p><b>FOOD CATEGORY: DRY BEANS, PEAS OR LENTILS</b></p> <p>..... 3 pounds of any  combination in 1 pound  packages or 3 pounds in  bulk</p>	<p><b>FOOD CATEGORY: INFANT MEATS</b></p> <p>..... (31) 2.5-ounce containers</p>
<p><b>FOOD CATEGORY: PEANUT BUTTER</b></p> <p>..... (2) 16 to 18-ounce jars</p>	<p><b>FOOD CATEGORY: INFANT CEREAL</b></p> <p>..... (3) 8-ounce boxes of  authorized infant cereal</p>
<p><b>FOOD CATEGORY: CANNED FISH</b></p> <p>Tuna..... (6) 5 ounce cans</p> <p align="center"><b>OR</b></p> <p>(5) 6 ounce cans</p>	<p><b>FOOD CATEGORY: INFANT FORMULA</b></p> <p>Enfamil LIPIL with Iron  (milk-based)..... (34) 13-ounce cans in  concentrate form</p> <p align="center"><b>OR</b></p> <p>(10) 12.9-ounce cans in  powdered form</p>
<p><b>FOOD CATEGORY: WHOLE GRAIN</b></p> <p>"100% whole wheat" bread in the  form of loaves, rolls, or buns..... (3) 1-pound packages</p> <p align="center"><b><u>OR</u></b></p> <p>Soft corn tortillas (white or  yellow)..... (3) 1-pound packages</p> <p align="center"><b><u>OR</u></b></p> <p>Oatmeal or Oats..... (3) 1-pound packages or  3 pounds in bulk</p> <p align="center"><b><u>OR</u></b></p> <p>Brown rice..... (3) 1-pound packages or  3 pounds in bulk</p>	<p align="center"><b><u>AND</u></b></p> <p>Enfamil ProSobee LIPIL  (soy-based)..... (34) 13-ounce cans in  concentrate form</p> <p align="center"><b>OR</b></p> <p>(10) 12.9-ounce cans in  powdered form</p>