



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



EDMUND G. BROWN JR.
Governor

April 27, 2012

VENDOR ALERT 2012 - 10

TO: ALL WIC VENDORS
SUBJECT: MORATORIUM ON ACCEPTING NEW VENDOR STORE APPLICATIONS WILL CONTINUE INDEFINITELY, DISCONTINUATION OF THE EXCEPTION LIST

Purpose The California Women, Infants, and Children (WIC) Program is announcing that effective immediately, no new-vendor applications will be accepted or processed, even if the vendor location was on the “exception” list.

Background On March 18, 2011, the California WIC Program issued Vendor Alert 2011-04 advising that the moratorium would be modified to allow for an “exception” list. If a vendor anticipated that they would apply for WIC authorization for a store location, but would not be ready to submit an application by April 6, 2011, the vendor was able to submit a letter to the Vendor Management Branch requesting that the vendor and store location be placed on WIC's moratorium exception list.

On April 6, 2011, the California WIC Program implemented the temporary moratorium on accepting new vendor location applications in order to effectively manage vendor caseload and comply with mandated Federal and State requirements, Title 7, Code of Federal Regulations Section 246.12(g) and Title 22, California Code of Regulations (CCR) Section 40735(a).

As directed by the United States Department of Agriculture (USDA), the moratorium will remain in effect until the California WIC Program develops and fully implements an effective cost containment and vendor management system. During the moratorium, California WIC Program must gain USDA approval to authorize any stores to meet participant access needs.

Vendor Applications The moratorium will continue indefinitely.

Effective immediately, no new-vendor applications will be accepted or processed. The California WIC Program will not process any new vendor location applications; regardless of store size, peer group, application status, or exception list status.

The California WIC Program will no longer process or accept applications, including:

- Vendor locations on the exception list
- New vendor applications that were being processed prior to the date of this Vendor Alert.



Women, Infants, and Children (WIC) Program
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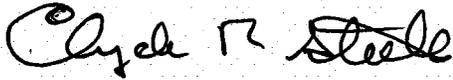
**Vendor
Applications
(continued)**

California WIC will no longer accept applications, including:

- Applications to add a location to a Master Vendor Agreement
 - Applications for authorization from a new owner of an existing WIC-authorized vendor location
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Questions

If you have any questions, please contact your Vendor Consultant or call toll free (855) WIC-STOR or (855) 942-7867. You can also contact the WIC Vendor Management Branch by email: WICVENDORINFO@cdph.ca.gov.



Clyde R. Steele, Chief
Vendor Management Branch
California WIC Program