

**SECTION:** CERTIFICATION

**SUBJECT:** Certification Requirements: Services/Information  
Provided by the Local Agency at Time of Certification

**ITEM:** *Referrals to Other Programs*



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**Policy** Local agencies shall provide each participant/applicant written information on the following programs:

1. Temporary Aid to Needy Families (TANF);
2. Food Stamps;
3. Medi-Cal (Medicaid);
4. Child Support Enforcement Program;
5. Substance abuse programs, including smoking cessation programs; and
6. Child Health and Disability Prevention (CHDP) Program.

When appropriate, local agencies shall refer applicants/participants to these programs. Local agencies may refer applicants/participants to other food assistance programs.

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**Basis for Policy:** 7CFR 246.4(a) and 246.7(a) and (b)

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**TANF, Food Stamps, and Child Support Enforcement Programs** Local agencies shall provide written information on TANF, Food Stamps, and the Child Support Enforcement Program to each adult individual applying for themselves or on behalf of others for the WIC Program. The information shall be provided upon completion of the initial certification and each recertification of the participant.

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**Medi-Cal Program** Local agencies shall refer to Medi-Cal all applicants/participants except for those individuals who are already receiving Medi-Cal benefits or appear to have family income above the applicable maximum financial limits for the program (See 980-1060 for Medi-Cal's Eligibility Income Guidelines). Local agencies shall also provide written information about the Medi-Cal program to each adult individual applying and reapplying at the end of their certification period for the WIC Program for themselves or on behalf of others.

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**Other food assistance programs** Local agencies are encouraged to provide written information on other food assistance programs to each adult individual applying for the WIC Program for themselves or on behalf of others, when such individuals cannot be served due to the agency operating beyond maximum WIC Branch-directed caseload or when the participant/applicant is determined not to be in a priority served by the local agency.

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**Substance abuse counseling and treatment programs** When appropriate, local agencies shall refer participants to counseling and treatment for the abuse of alcohol, nicotine, street drugs, prescription medications, and over-the-counter drugs and medications. When appropriate, local agencies shall distribute to participants or parents or caretakers of participants a list of local resources for substance abuse counseling and treatment, including a list of local resources for smoking cessation counseling and treatment. The list shall be distributed upon completion of the initial certification and each recertification of the participant.

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**Child Health and Disability Prevention Program** Local agencies shall refer infants and children to the CHDP program if the individual is not already receiving wellness care check-ups from the CHDP program. Local agencies shall provide written information about the CHDP program to each parent or caretaker applying for the WIC Program on behalf of an infant or child. The information shall be provided upon completion of the initial certification and each recertification of the participant.

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**Referral to WIC** The TANF and Medi-Cal Programs shall refer their beneficiaries/participants to the local WIC Program.

County welfare offices have been advised to contact local WIC agencies for outreach pamphlets for dissemination to individuals who may potentially be eligible for WIC. Local agencies are encouraged to provide outreach pamphlets to the county welfare office to give to individuals who may potentially be eligible for WIC.

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**Documentation** Local agencies may document referrals to county welfare offices and other assistance programs in the participant's record. Local agencies may document referrals on the Referral Screen in ISIS.

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