



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



EDMUND G. BROWN JR.
Governor

November 14, 2013

VENDOR ALERT 2013 - 09

TO: ALL WIC VENDORS
SUBJECT: SHORT DISTANCE STORE MOVES

Purpose As of November 14, 2013, the California Women, Infants, and Children (WIC) Program will not approve WIC authorized vendor requests for short distance relocations.

Background On June 10, 2013, California WIC announced that the United States Department of Agriculture (USDA) provided California WIC with exemption criteria to accept new vendor applications. Short-distance vendor store relocations are not an approved exemption criteria allowed by the USDA.

Authority Federal Regulations (7 C.F.R. §246.12(h)(3)(xvii)) require the Department to terminate a vendor's agreement and authorization in the event of a change in location, a change in ownership, or the cessation of store operations. This section allows California WIC to authorize short-distance store relocations without terminating a vendor's agreement.

Currently, the State lacks regulations regarding short distance moves. In the absence of a state regulation regarding short-distance moves, California WIC must comply with 7 C.F.R. §246.12(h)(3)(xvii).

Action For Vendors All requests made after November 14, 2013 for short-distance relocations by vendors will be denied. According to the vendor agreement, vendors must provide California WIC with 15-day advance notice of any vendor store relocation. Pursuant to 7 C.F.R. §246.12(h)(3)(xvii), vendor store relocations will result in termination of vendor authorization. While vendors may apply for WIC authorization at a new location, California WIC is still under a new vendor moratorium and must apply the current moratorium exemption criteria on vendor applications according to the federal requirements. For more information on federal moratorium exemptions see [Vendor Alert 2013-03](#).

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.

Diane Sparks, Chief
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California WIC Program



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