

PREMIER PUBLICATION

WIC News

For Vendors

Introducing the California WIC Card!

The California Department of Public Health/WIC Division (CDPH/WIC) is excited to introduce the California WIC Card! The WIC Card will replace the current paper food instruments and will improve the checkout experience for grocers and WIC families. Food benefits will be easier to use and track.

Each family will receive one WIC Card for all of their family's food benefits. The WIC Card will provide a more convenient way for families to shop for WIC foods and provide flexibility to get just what they need at each shopping trip.

Implementation Schedule

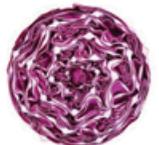
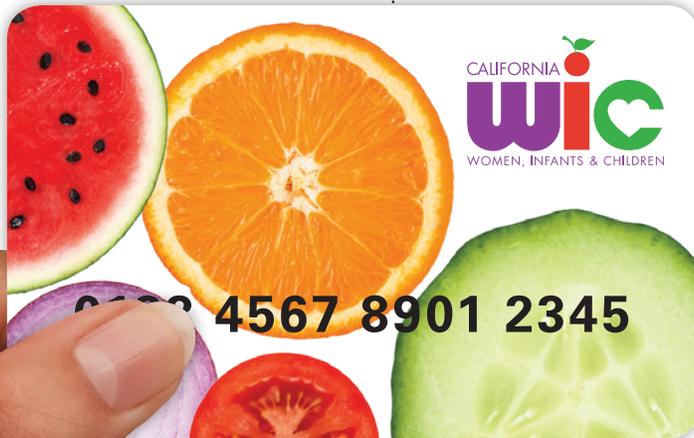
In order to implement the new WIC Card, CDPH/WIC must replace WIC's current computer system with a new system. The new card and the new computer system will be rolled out throughout California in waves, beginning with a pilot period in Napa and Solano Counties.

The pilot counties will "Go Live" on May 6, 2019. The Go Live date is the first day a WIC local agency site begins issuing the WIC Card to participants. A new wave will go live approximately every 3 weeks starting mid-August 2019. A detailed map on page 2 of this publication shows the specific areas of the pilot and 10 waves, as well as their Go Live dates.

Considerations for the rollout waves included:

- Geography and distance between local agencies
- Number of WIC local agencies and WIC authorized vendors per wave
- Weather
- Variation of food costs per region
- Local Agency facilities for training
- Local Agency staffing and training enrollment size

For more information:
Visit wicworks.ca.gov
or contact us at
WICCard@cdph.ca.gov



Each wave consists of a 6 to 8 month period of planning, training, and implementation activities for local agencies and authorized vendors, concluding with the Go Live date.

Ways to Stay Informed

CDPH/WIC is committed to keeping you informed about the exciting changes coming to the California WIC Program, which will have a positive impact on grocers, WIC families, and local agencies. We will be releasing additional information through:

- Vendor alerts
- Monthly Vendor Stakeholder Webinars
- Monthly WIC News publication

- Vendor Kick Off meetings
- Local Vendor Liaison visits

CDPH/WIC will produce 3 versions of WIC News, each targeting a specific key stakeholder audience including WIC Authorized Vendors, WIC Local Agencies, and community partners.

You can access WIC News by visiting our website at www.wicworks.ca.gov. If you have any questions or would like to receive our monthly publication via email or mail, please contact us at WICcard@cdph.ca.gov.

CDPH/WIC will also provide other materials and resources throughout the implementation process. Publications and other materials will be posted at www.wicworks.ca.gov.



California WIC Card Implementation Rollout Waves

| Waves | Go Live Dates |
|---------|---------------|
| Pilot | 05/06/2019 |
| Wave 1 | 08/12/2019 |
| Wave 2 | 09/03/2019 |
| Wave 3 | 09/23/2019 |
| Wave 4 | 10/14/2019 |
| Wave 5 | 11/12/2019 |
| Wave 6 | 12/09/2019 |
| Wave 7 | 01/21/2020 |
| Wave 8 | 02/18/2020 |
| Wave 9 | 03/09/2020 |
| Wave 10 | 03/30/2020 |

