



California
Department of
Health Services

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Director

Department of Health Services



ARNOLD SCHWARZENEGGER
Governor

Original document not dated.
Original document signed on June 24, 2005

GROCER ALERT 2005-08

To:	ALL WIC GROCERS
Subject:	VERIFICATION OF LICENSED OR REGISTERED INFANT FORMULA PROVIDERS
Purpose	<p>I am writing to notify you that, effective October 1, 2005, grocers will be required to purchase infant formula only from manufacturers, wholesalers, distributors, or retailers that are licensed in the State in accordance with State law (including regulations), and/or infant formula manufacturers registered with the Food and Drug Administration (FDA).</p> <p>I have enclosed a list of companies that are registered with FDA to manufacture infant formula. I have also provided information on how to verify that your infant formula supplier is currently authorized to conduct business in California, as required by the California Revenue and Taxation Code, Section 6066.</p>
Background	<p>Public Law (PL) 108-265, the Child Nutrition and WIC Reauthorization Act of 2004 (The Act) requires that State agencies maintain a list of licensed infant formula wholesalers, distributors, and retailers in addition to a list of companies manufacturing infant formula who are registered with FDA. The Act also requires State agencies to ensure that grocers only buy infant formula from approved sources.</p>
Grocer Implications	<p>Effective October 1, 2005, grocers will be required to purchase infant formula only from verified sources. Before purchasing infant formula, grocers should first confirm that the infant formula supplier has been either approved by the FDA or has a seller's permit number that the grocer has verified through the California Board of Equalization (BOE).</p> <p>I will be providing more specific information in a subsequent Grocer Alert regarding the changes that affect the purchase of infant formula.</p>
Registered Infant Formula Manufacturers	<p>The following is a list of companies currently registered with the FDA who manufacture infant formula:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Bristol-Myers Squibb Company • Nestle, USA • Ross Products • SHS North America • PBM Nutritionals

	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Solus Products, LLC <p>Please see enclosure for full company contact information.</p>
Seller's Permit Verification Service	<p>The California Women, Infants, and Children (WIC) Supplemental Nutrition Program has determined that the seller's permit issued and maintained by the BOE meets the requirements pertaining to licensed distributors, wholesalers, and retailers as specified in PL 108-265.</p> <p>After requesting the seller's permit number from the supplier, use one of the following four ways to verify the validity of the seller permit number through the BOE:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Internet Verification Service – By going to www.boe.ca.gov/sutax/boeinput.htm, at any time, you can enter the number for the seller's permit you are verifying. Do not enter letters or dashes. 2. Automated Seller's Permit Verification Service - By calling this automated toll free number at, (888) 225-5263, at any time you can verify a seller's permit number. However, you will not have access to a customer service representative at this number. 3. Information Center – A customer service representative can be reached at, (800) 400-7115, to verify a seller's permit number. Representatives are available from 8:00 a.m. through 5:00 p.m., Monday through Friday, excluding State holidays. 4. Request by mail – A written request verifying a seller's permit number can be sent to: <p style="text-align: center;">Account Information Group, MIC:29 State Board of Equalization P.O. Box 942879 Sacramento, CA 94279-0029</p> <p>The business owner's name, business name, address, and seller's permit number must be included in the request as well as your name, phone number, and return address.</p>
WIC Website	Please refer to the WIC website at www.wicworks.ca.gov for other WIC program information.
Questions Regarding Seller's Permit Numbers	If you have questions specifically pertaining to the validity of a seller's permit number, please contact Carolyn Mashburn in the Program Integrity Unit at, (916) 928-8548.
Other Questions	If you have any other questions other than those regarding the validity of a seller's permit number, please contact your WIC Grocer Consultant at, (916) 928-8705. Thank you for your cooperation in this matter.
<p>David Markell, Chief Food Management and Integrity Section WIC Supplemental Nutrition Branch</p> <p>Enclosure</p>	

Infant formula manufacturers that are currently (updated 2/18/05) registered with the FDA and are marketing infant formulas in the U.S.:

1. Bristol-Myers Squibb Company

Bristol-Myers Squibb Company
Mead Johnson Nutritional Group
2400 West Lloyd Expressway
Evansville, IN 47721-0001

2. Nestle, USA

Nestle USA
800 North Brand Blvd.
Glendale, CA 91203

3. Ross Products

Ross Products Division
Abbott Laboratories
625 Cleveland Avenue
Columbus, Ohio 43215-1724

4. SHS North America

SHS North America
9900 Belward Campus Drive, Ste. 100
Rockville, MD 20850

5. PBM Nutritionals

PBM Nutritionals, LLC
P.O. Box 2109
147 Industrial Park Road
Georgia, Vermont 05468-2109

6. Solus Products, LLC

Solus Products, LLC
8910 Purdue Road, Suite 230
Indianapolis, IN 46268