



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

December 3, 2009



ARNOLD SCHWARZENEGGER  
Governor

**VENDOR ALERT 2009-18**

**TO:** ALL WIC VENDORS

**SUBJECT:** ADDITIONAL LOCATION OF THE FOOD ITEM NUMBER ON THE FOOD INSTRUMENT

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**Purpose**

I am writing to inform you of the California Women, Infants, and Children (WIC) Program's change to the location of the Food Item Number on the food instruments. This letter describes the change that will be implemented in mid-December 2009.

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**Background**

The WIC Program began printing and issuing the new food instruments on October 1, 2009. Each food instrument includes a Food Item Number, which is a four-digit number printed in the lower right-hand corner under the Exact Purchase Price box.

The WIC Program has decided to print the Food Item Number in an additional location on the food instrument. The Food Item Number location change was made to better assist vendors in being able to locate and read the Food Item Number in the event that the participant's or alternate shopper's signature makes the Food Item Number unreadable.

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**Food Item  
Number  
Location  
Change**

The change to the Food Item Number location on the food instrument will be effective mid-December 2009, and is as follows:

- The Food Item Number will now be printed in two separate locations on the food instrument. The two locations are:
  1. Above the "Pay to the order of: WIC Authorized Vendor"; and
  2. In the lower right-hand corner under the Exact Purchase Price box.

This change will make it easier for vendors to locate and read the Food Item Number.

A copy of a sample food instrument that includes the Food Item Number printed in the two separate locations on it is shown on the next page.

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**Questions**

If you have any questions, please contact your WIC Vendor Consultant at (916) 928-8705.

*Clyde R Steele*

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

**SAMPLE FOOD INSTRUMENT**

INDIVIDUAL NO.	PARTICIPANT / PARENT / GUARDIAN	FIRST DAY TO USE	LAST DAY TO USE	SERIAL NO.
953932117PP	PATTY PARTICIPANT	DEC 17 09	JAN 17 10	269534015

  

	FOOD ITEM NUMBER: 6012	700-269534015
	Pay to the order of: WIC Authorized Vendor	90-1342 1211
<b>What to buy:</b> 1 (GALLON) AND 1 (QUART) MILK, LOWER FAT 1 DOZEN EGGS 1 (16 OZ) CHEESE 1 (16 OZ) DRY BEANS, PEAS OR LENTILS OR 1 (16-18 OZ) PEANUT BUTTER	EXACT PURCHASE PRICE:	<input type="text"/> <small>*MUST NOT EXCEED MAXIMUM ALLOWABLE DEPARTMENT REIMBURSEMENT RATE</small> FOOD ITEM NUMBER 6012
<small>State of California WIC Program            VOID IF NOT DEPOSITED WITHIN 45 DAYS OF FIRST DAY TO USE. NOT VALID IF ALTERED.</small>	<small>VALID ONLY FOR FOOD ITEMS SPECIFIED IN THE CALIFORNIA WIC AUTHORIZED FOOD LIST.</small>	<b>NON-NEGOTIABLE</b> <small>AUTHORIZED SIGNATURE (SIGN AT PURCHASE)</small>

  

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