
SECTION: CERTIFICATION

SUBJECT: Eligibility Requirement

ITEM: Category

Policy

The Local Agency (LA) shall certify an applicant as eligible for program benefits based on category, residency, identification (ID), income and nutritional risks.

Required Procedures

All of the following criteria must be met and documented in the Integrated Statewide Information System for Program eligibility:

1. Category: [pregnant](#), [breastfeeding](#), or [non-breastfeeding woman](#), [infant](#), and [child](#) under five years;
2. California residency;
3. Identification;
4. Income;
5. Indicator of Nutritional Risk; and
6. Presence at Certification.

Guidelines

- I. Proof of Category.
Proof of category is not a program eligibility requirement. However, the LA may request additional documentation if the applicant's categorical status is questionable.
- II. Proof of Pregnancy.
Obtaining proof of pregnancy results cannot constitute a barrier to WIC participation. The LA should allow a reasonable period of time, not to exceed 60 days, for the applicant to provide the requested documentation of pregnancy. If such documentation is not provided as requested, the local agency is justified in disqualifying a woman from participation during the middle of a certification period. See WPM Sections 280-10 and 280-20 for additional information about program eligibility or participant disqualification.

Authority

7 CFR 246.2

7 CFR 246.7 (c)(1), (2), (4)

7 CFR 246.8

All States Memorandum 98-66