

GEORGIA  
**WIC**  
EATHEALTHYGROWHEALTHYLIVEHEALTHY

# Vendor Mail

.....Vendor Updates

Fourth Quarter 2016

## IN THIS ISSUE

Application Period for Prospective Vendor Locations	1
Newly Approved WIC Vendors	2
Reauthorization for Vendors with Three-Year Agreements	2
Vendor Stamps	3
Nutrition Update	3
Next Shelf Price Survey	3-4
Cashier's Corner	4



This institution is an equal opportunity provider.



## Application Period for Prospective Vendor Locations

The application submission period for new vendor authorization, will open Oct. 1, 2016, and close Dec. 31, 2016.

Please visit the program website: [dph.georgia.gov/vendor-information](http://dph.georgia.gov/vendor-information) under the subheading "Vendor Application and Forms." You will be able to review the selection criteria and retrieve required documentation to successfully complete an application. To avoid delays with application processing, please make sure all submitted documentation is complete and accurate.

Georgia WIC has two (2) open application periods during each federal fiscal year (FFY).

- **Oct. 1 - Dec. 31**
- **March 1 - May 30**

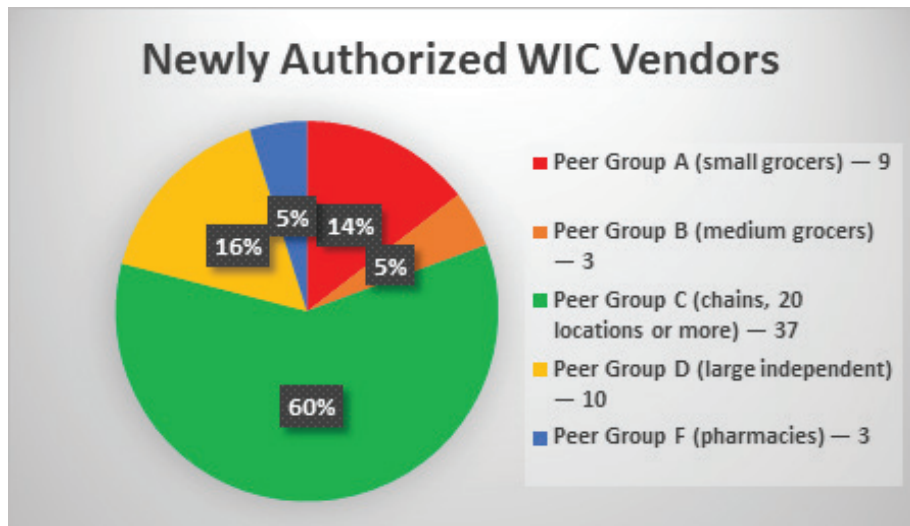


# Newly Approved WIC Vendors

During the FFY 2016 open application periods, Georgia WIC received 74 applications:

- Period 1: 42 applications
- Period 2: 32 applications

Of those received, 57 new store locations were authorized. You may see the distribution among peer groups below.



## Reauthorization for Vendors with Three-Year Agreements

Georgia WIC recently completed reauthorization for vendors with three-year agreements expiring Sept. 30, 2016. These newly reauthorized agreements are for Oct. 1, 2016 – Sept. 30, 2019.

- **Applications Received:** 50 corporate applications representing 1,275 store locations
- **Applications Approved for Authorization:** 50 applications representing 1,273 store locations
- **Denied Applications:** Two (2) store locations
- **Corporate Vendor Representatives attended and successfully completed interactive training:** 46 Grocery and four (4) Pharmacy
- **Percentage of stores that completed mandatory training requirement:** 100 percent
- **Pre-Approval Visits completed:** 946 Grocery and 330 Pharmacy vendors

## Vendor Stamps

### Do's

- Report lost or stolen stamps immediately.
- Return damaged stamps to Georgia WIC.
- Refill the removable pad using only water based black liquid ink.
- Contact the Vendor Relations Unit at (404) 657-4470 for a replacement stamp.

### Don'ts

- Do not use any stamp that was not provided by Georgia WIC— if used, your store will not be paid for the voucher.
- Do not reproduce the vendor stamp. If vendor stamp is reproduced, your store will be terminated.





## Next Shelf Price Survey



## Nutrition Update

- The Georgia WIC Program is planning to add yogurt and pasta to the WIC Approved Foods List. Pasta will be an addition to the whole grain category.

### Special Note: **Shelf Price Survey Requirement for Yogurt and Pasta**

In preparation for the updated WIC Approved Foods List, you will see new items listed on the Shelf Price Survey. To help us accurately determine pricing, please input the price for the listed items. We encourage your participation in this effort to provide new and exciting products for our participants.

The mandatory shelf price survey will open Nov. 4, 2016, and will end Nov. 18, 2016. The website will close at 5 p.m., Nov. 18, 2016. You will receive notification prior to the shelf price survey via United States Postal mail and via email.

It is vital that vendors submit pricing for all WIC approved foods, including infant formulas whether or not they are currently stocked on store shelves. Log onto [sendss.state.ga.us/sendss/wicpricing.wiclogin](https://sendss.state.ga.us/sendss/wicpricing.wiclogin) for instructions and to enter your shelf price ID and password.

Shelf price survey instructions are also located on the Georgia WIC vendor website at [dph.georgia.gov/training-materials-and-resources](https://dph.georgia.gov/training-materials-and-resources) under the subheading "Shelf Price Survey Resources and Instructions."

## Cashier's Corner

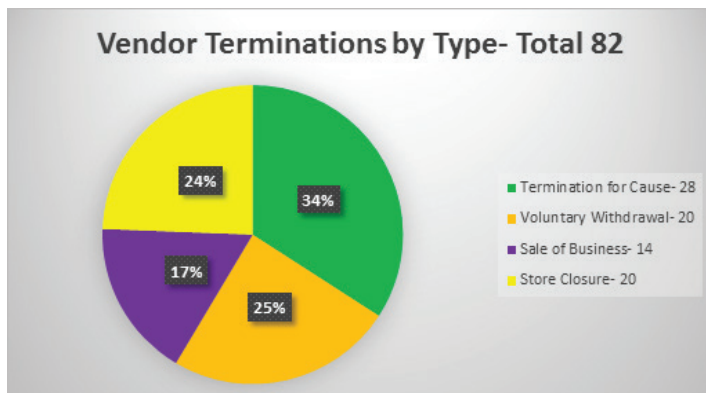


### Reminders

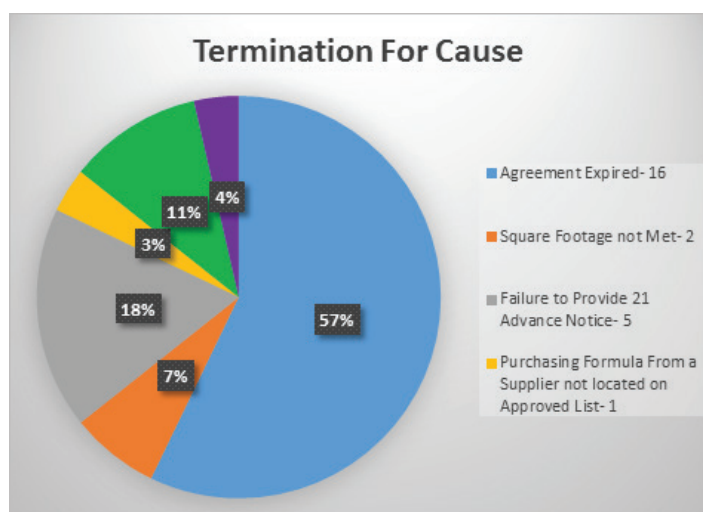
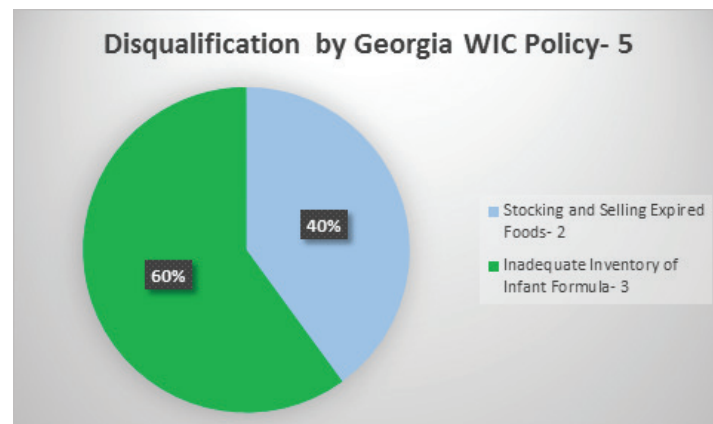
- Use BLACK INK when writing the total dollar amount in the "Pay Exactly" box.
- If participant signs prior to checkout, politely request a new signature above or below the previous one.
- Offer WIC participants the same courtesies as those offered to other customers.

# Vendor Performance at a Glance: August 2015 – August 2016

## Terminations



## Disqualifications

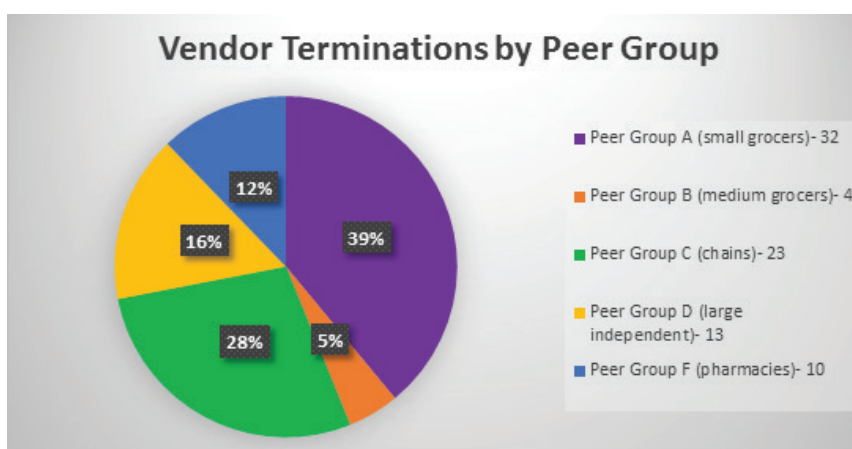


## State Disqualifications

- Categorized by the nature and severity of the offense
- A pattern is established when the same violation occurs twice
- Imposed by Georgia WIC Program
- Maximum disqualification period up to 10 months

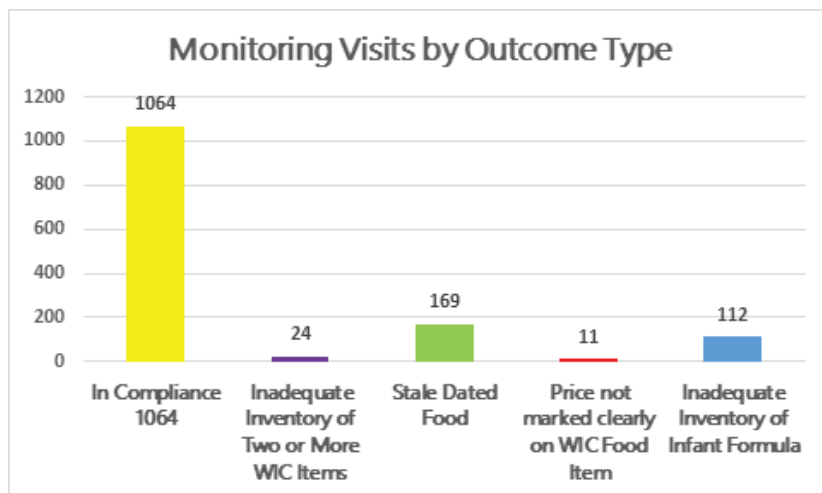
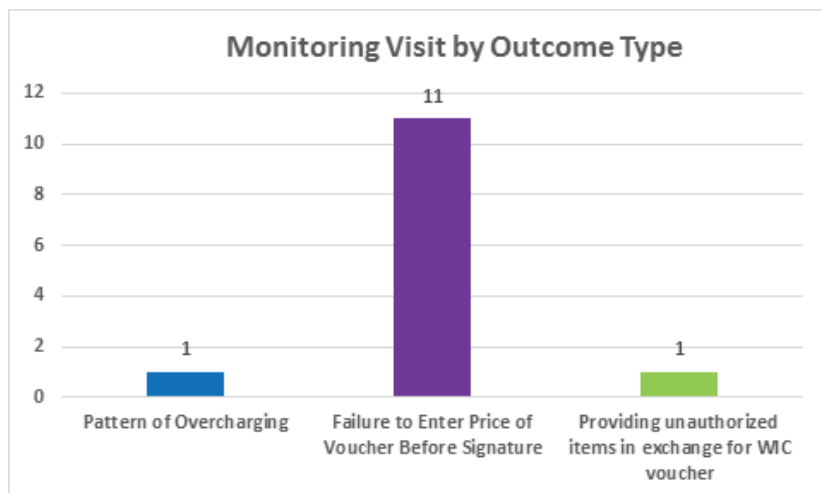
## USDA Disqualifications

- Categorized by the nature and severity of the offense
- Imposed by the United States Department of Agriculture (USDA)
- Maximum disqualification period up to permanent disqualification



# Vendor Performance at a Glance: August 2015 – August 2016 Continued

## Total Number of Compliance Visits Conducted and Outcomes - Total 1,393



## Contact Information:

Georgia Department of Public Health  
Georgia WIC  
Office of Vendor Management  
2 Peachtree Street, NW  
10th Floor  
Atlanta, Georgia 30303-3142

### Main Number:

404-657-2900

### Customer Service Hotline:

1-866-814-5468

### Email:

[dph.georgia.gov/vendor-information](mailto:dph.georgia.gov/vendor-information)

## Georgia WIC Program Vendor Relations Team:

Natalie Bennett  
Vendor Training & Support Coordinator  
[Natalie.Bennett@dph.ga.gov](mailto:Natalie.Bennett@dph.ga.gov)  
404-657-5239

Mimi Benton  
Vendor Relations Compliance Specialist  
[Mimi.Benton@dph.ga.gov](mailto:Mimi.Benton@dph.ga.gov)  
404-657-2932

Victoria Bernhardt  
Vendor Relations & Compliance Consultant  
[Victoria.Bernhardt@dph.ga.gov](mailto:Victoria.Bernhardt@dph.ga.gov)  
404-657-2889

Rolandria Boyce  
Vendor Relations & Compliance Consultant  
[Rolandria.Boyce@dph.ga.gov](mailto:Rolandria.Boyce@dph.ga.gov)  
404-657-2899

Edwardo Hebbert  
Vendor Relations & Compliance Consultant  
[Edwardo.Hebbert@dph.ga.gov](mailto:Edwardo.Hebbert@dph.ga.gov)  
404-657-9882

Tamara Johnson  
Vendor Relations Compliance Specialist  
[Tamara.Johnson@dph.ga.gov](mailto:Tamara.Johnson@dph.ga.gov)  
404-463-6574