

**MEMORANDUM**

**INFORMATION MEMO #16-09**

**TO:** District Nutrition Services Directors

**FROM:** Anthony McGaughey   
Deputy Director of Program Administration  
Georgia WIC Program

**DATE:** April 19, 2016

**SUBJECT:** Update on the Georgia Gateway Rollout

Attached you will find a memorandum from the Department of Human Services (DHS) Commissioner to the DHS staff in reference to the Georgia Gateway project. DHS is the lead agency for Georgia Gateway and we wanted to pass this memorandum along to WIC staff to update each of you on the status of this very important project.

If you have any questions, please contact Anthony McGaughey at 404.232.1096 or via e-mail [anthony.mcgaughey@dph.ga.gov](mailto:anthony.mcgaughey@dph.ga.gov)

Attachment

c: Debra L. Keyes, MA, RD, Director, Georgia WIC Program  
DPH Executive Leadership Team  
District Health Directors  
District Administrators  
District Program Managers  
District MIS Directors  
WIC Deputy Directors  
WIC Managers





All:

Georgia's Henry County pilot of its new integrated eligibility system, "Georgia Gateway," is currently scheduled to roll out in May, 2016. This message is to inform you that we have asked our Federal partners – and expect to receive – a four month extension to the current project schedule. That means ***the pilot will now take place in September***. All other crucial go-live dates and wave roll-outs associated with Georgia Gateway will also move out four months.

Why have we asked for an extension? An additional four months will allow us to test the system further, deal with outstanding interface (trading partner) issues, and implement the new federal security requirements. Trading partners and the new security requirements affect overall project schedule and are largely out of the state's control.

***More testing = smoother, more seamless implementation for Gateway users + better overall experience for clients. That's a win-win equation.***

The practical implication of this schedule change is that workers will not be taking part in Georgia Gateway training as soon as planned. We want to ensure training occurs as close to implementation as possible so you are best equipped to use the system when it comes online.

***So what's the bottom line? We've asked for more time to work on Georgia Gateway and we expect to receive it. That means we will have more time to test the system. It also means training will be delayed.***

Keep up the hard work and positive attitudes in Henry County and across the state. DHS and project leadership have been hearing really good things about the level of commitment to, and enthusiasm for, Georgia Gateway in the field!

We will have updates for you soon, so stay tuned.

Robyn Crittenden  
DHS Commissioner