Policy

Local agencies must make available to participants the maximum monthly allowances of authorized supplemental foods. A CPA must prescribe the authorized supplemental foods in quantities that do not exceed the maximum monthly allowances.

Purpose

To ensure each participant receives all of the food benefits to which they are entitled.

Procedures

I. The local agency will ensure CPAs take into consideration the participant’s nutritional and breastfeeding needs when prescribing authorized supplemental foods.

II. The local agency can only provide less than the maximum monthly allowance of supplemental foods to an individual WIC participant when:

   A. Medically or nutritionally warranted (e.g., eliminate a food due to an allergy);
   B. A participant refuses or cannot use the maximum monthly allowances.
   C. The local agency must document in the participant record why the maximum monthly allowance was not provided.
   D. The Food Section of the Medical Documentation Form can be used for the required documentation.

III. The local agency must instruct all participants on how to select WIC approved foods to receive their maximum monthly allowance.

Authority

7 C.F.R. §§ 246.10 (d) and (e)

Definitions/Supporting Information

Competent Professional Authority (CPA) - An individual on the local agency staff who is authorized to determine nutritional risk and prescribe supplemental foods. The following individuals may be authorized and trained to serve as a CPA: physicians, nutritionists (bachelor’s or master’s degree in Nutritional Sciences, Community Nutrition, Clinical Nutrition, Dietetics, Public Health Nutrition), registered dietitians, licensed dietitians, registered nurses, and physician assistants (certified by the National Committee on certification of Physician Assistants or certified by the State medical certifying authority), or State or local medically trained health officials.