

## WIC APPROVED FOODS

The WIC Approved Foods posted on the Georgia Department of Public Health website at <http://dph.georgia.gov/vendor-information> are foods that are available to the WIC customer. **ONLY these foods may be purchased by the participant or proxy using the WIC food instrument.**

Because the brand names and types of infant formula as well as special medical foods are too numerous to list, approved foods will be printed directly on the front of the WIC food instrument. **The WIC customer is allowed to purchase the brand, type and size of infant formula or medical food that is printed on the front of the food instrument. Do not allow the WIC customer to purchase infant formula or medical food that is NOT listed on the food instrument.**

The vendor will receive an updated list of approved foods as changes are made and can always check the Georgia Department of Public Health website for current information. Vendors will periodically receive pamphlets and posters of WIC approved food items that can be used as displays or as a training resource.

### List of Infant Formula Wholesalers, Distributors, and Manufacturers

All vendor applicants and authorized vendors are required to purchase infant formula, to be exchanged for WIC food instruments, directly from a WIC approved supplier or manufacturer included on a list provided by the Georgia WIC Program. The Georgia WIC Program does not permit vendors to purchase infant formula from other authorized program vendors or retailers. Only purchases from the approved list will be permitted.

Records of the infant formula purchases must be maintained for a minimum of three (3) previous years plus the current year (or until any pending investigations are closed). In the event of an investigation, only purchase invoices from those approved suppliers will be considered as legitimate. The program may also require vendors to supply the program with written permission to confirm their infant formula purchase history with suppliers.

The approved list includes manufacturers registered with the Food and Drug Administration (FDA) as well as licensed wholesalers, distributors and suppliers. Only Georgia WIC approved Infant Formula is eligible for purchase and distribution. A current list is posted on the Georgia WIC Vendor Management (OVM) Website and available to applicants and authorized vendors. Manufacturers and wholesalers/distributors/suppliers are listed separately. The Infant Formula supplier list will be updated as suppliers are added or at a minimum, annually. Annual updates shall observe the Federal Fiscal year of October 1<sup>st</sup> through September 30<sup>th</sup>. Vendors may not appeal the State's decision to include or exclude an infant formula wholesaler, distributor or manufacturer from the approved list.

The Approved Infant Formula Suppliers list can be located on the Georgia WIC Vendor Management Website at: <https://dph.georgia.gov/vendor-information>.

### Obtaining Approval to be Placed on the Georgia WIC Approved Infant Formula Supplier List

Wholesalers, distributors, and suppliers may apply to be placed on the approved list by contacting the WIC Office of Vendor Management at 404-657-2900 or toll free at 1-866-814-5468.

The newly posted Georgia WIC Approved Infant Formula Supplier List will have an effective date that reflects the date that the last supplier(s) was added to the approved list.

### **Non-WIC Inventory Requirement**

All vendors except pharmacies are required to carry foods other than WIC approved foods. These food items must consist of qualifying food items approved by SNAP in addition to the WIC minimum inventory, WIC-approved foods, and foods that are intended for home preparation and consumption, such as meat, fish, poultry, bread, cereal products, dairy products, fruits, and vegetables. Items such as condiments and spices, coffee, tea, cocoa, carbonated and noncarbonated beverages are included in food sales only when offered for sale along with foods in the four (4) primary categories. Non-food items, alcoholic beverages, hot foods, or food that will be eaten on the store premises are not considered a part of USDA's definition of eligible foods.

At least two hundred (200) items in each of the following categories must be in stock at all times.

<b>Non-WIC Inventory Requirement</b>	
<b>Food Item</b>	<b>Minimum in each category</b>
<b>Meats, Poultry and/or Seafood</b> ( <i>refrigerated or frozen</i> )	200
<b>Breads and Cereal Products</b>	200
<b>Dairy</b> ( <i>e.g. milk, cheese, yogurt, etc.</i> )	200
<b>Shelf Staples</b> ( <i>e.g. flour, sugar, pasta, pudding mix, etc.</i> )	200
<b>Cans, Jars, Bottled Goods</b> ( <i>e.g. mayo, ketchup, relish, etc.</i> )	200
<b>Beverages</b> ( <i>e.g. soda, water, powdered drinks, etc.</i> )	200
<b>Snack Foods</b> ( <i>e.g. crackers, granola bars, etc.</i> )	200

## Minimum WIC Food Inventory Requirements

Vendors are **REQUIRED** to maintain in stock a minimum variety and quantity of the WIC foods as described in the chart below. An on-site inventory audit of the below mentioned WIC-approved food items is a component of the pre-approval and routine monitoring visits.

Georgia WIC Program Minimum Inventory Requirements Effective July 12, 2021				
Food Item	Types/Brands	Size	Minimum Inventory	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
<b>MILK</b> <u>Any brand allowed.</u> Kosher allowed. <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>No 2%, organic, evaporated filled or flavored milk</li> <li>No raw milk</li> <li>No nut milks</li> <li>No a2 milk, buttermilk, rice milk, coconut milk, pea protein plant milk, or oat milk</li> </ul> No dried whole milk (Nido)	Whole Milk	Gallon	4 Gallons	<input type="checkbox"/>
	Fat Free/Skim, Low-Fat (1%) <u>(size &amp; fat content as listed on voucher)</u>	Gallon	8 Gallons (Can be Combined)	<input type="checkbox"/>
<b>CHEESE</b> <u>Any brand allowed</u> <u>Kosher allowed</u> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Part-skim is allowed</li> </ul> Following forms are allowed: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Block</li> <li>Slices</li> <li>String</li> <li>Shredded</li> <li>Cubed</li> <li>Stick</li> </ul>	One Pound Package	16 oz (1 Pound)	5 - 1 lb Packages 2 Types	<input type="checkbox"/>
<b>EGGS</b> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li><i>Any Brand allowed</i></li> <li><i>Any grade allowed</i></li> <li><i>White or Brown eggs allowed</i></li> <li><i>No organic</i></li> <li><i>No added Omega 3, DHA or ARA</i></li> <li><i>No low cholesterol</i></li> <li><i>No free range, pasture-raised, natural cage free,</i></li> </ul>	Any size allowed (large, extra-large, jumbo, etc.).	1 Dozen Carton	4 - 1 Dozen	<input type="checkbox"/>

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Food Item	Types/Brands	Size	Minimum Inventory	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
<i>cage free, enriched colony or vegetarian fed</i>				
<b>PEANUT BUTTER</b> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• No reduced fat or peanut butter spreads</li> <li>• No added marshmallow, chocolate, honey, or jelly</li> <li>• No added vitamins/minerals</li> <li>• No added Omega 3</li> <li>• No other size</li> </ul>	Any Brand			
	Creamy, Crunchy, Extra Crunchy, Natural or Low salt	16-18 oz Jar	4 Containers 2 Brands	<input type="checkbox"/>
<b>BEANS / PEAS / LENTILS</b> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• No flavored beans or peas</li> <li>• No other size or quantity</li> <li>• No added sugar, fat, oil, or meat</li> <li>• No soups</li> <li>• No baked beans</li> <li>• No immature varieties of legumes such as green peas, or snap beans/green beans</li> </ul>	Dried Beans/Peas/ Lentils (any variety of plain, mature dry beans, peas or lentils)	1 Pound Packages	5 Packages - 2 Types	<input type="checkbox"/>
	Canned Beans/ Peas/ Lentils (any variety of plain, mature beans, peas, or lentils, including refried beans, low sodium is allowed)	15 - 16 oz Cans	18 Cans - 2 Types	<input type="checkbox"/>

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TOFU Calcium set <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• No non-calcium set</li> <li>• No other size, type, or quantity</li> </ul>	Nasoya	Silken Extra Firm Firm	14 to 16 oz package	Must be ordered upon request.	<input type="checkbox"/>
BROWN RICE <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• No white rice</li> <li>• No flavored rice</li> <li>• <b>Not</b> any other size or quantity</li> </ul>	Any Brand		16 oz	Must be ordered upon request.	<input type="checkbox"/>
JUICE <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• No juice drinks</li> <li>• No juice with sugar added</li> <li>• No sports drinks</li> </ul>	Ready to Serve Container, Non-Frozen Concentrate, Frozen Concentrate		48 oz 11.5 oz 11.5 -12 oz	8 Containers – 2 Flavors Any Combination	<input type="checkbox"/>
	Ready to Serve Container		64 oz	8 Containers - 2 Flavors	<input type="checkbox"/>
WHOLE GRAIN BREAD <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• No hot dog rolls/buns</li> <li>• No other brand, size, type or quantity</li> </ul>	100% Whole Wheat Loaves  100% Whole Wheat Sandwich Buns	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Best Choice</li> <li>• Bimbo</li> <li>• Food Lion</li> <li>• Healthy Life</li> <li>• Kroger</li> <li>• Nature's Own</li> <li>• Roman Meal</li> <li>• Sara Lee</li> <li>• Wonder</li> </ul>	16 oz Loaf	4 Loaves	<input type="checkbox"/>
WHOLE GRAIN TORTILLA <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• No other types or brands</li> <li>• No other size or quantity</li> </ul>	Whole Wheat	Guerrero Kroger MiCasa Mission Ortega	16 oz package	Must be ordered upon request.	<input type="checkbox"/>
	Corn	Chi Chi's Guerrero Herdez La Banderita Mission			
CEREAL (Hot & Cold)	WIC Approved Cereal Brands and Types <i>(see WIC Approved Foods List)</i>		11- 36 oz	12 Boxes - 4 Types, <b>2 Types must be Whole Grain</b>	<input type="checkbox"/>
FISH <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• No Packed in oil</li> <li>• No albacore</li> <li>• No Added flavorings</li> <li>• No Pouches</li> </ul>	Tuna – water packed, any brand		5 oz can 6 oz can 7.5 oz can	18 Cans Combined	<input type="checkbox"/>
	Pink Salmon, any brand		5 oz can 6 oz can		

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<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>No Individual serving containers</li> <li>No Fresh or frozen</li> <li>No other sizes or quantities</li> <li>No other sizes or quantities</li> </ul>		7.5 oz can 14.75 oz can			
<b>INFANT FORMULA</b> (The WIC voucher lists the brand, size, and form (powder, concentrate, or ready to feed) that is allowable.)	Enfamil A.R.	12.9 oz can powder 8 fl oz bottle RTF	Must be ordered upon request. Must be ordered upon request.	<input type="checkbox"/>	
	Enfamil Infant (milk based)	12.5 oz can powder	12 cans		
		32 fl oz bottle RTF	Must be ordered upon request.		
		13 fl oz can concentrate	Must be ordered upon request.		
	Enfamil ProSobee (soy based)	12.9 oz can powder	6 cans	<input type="checkbox"/>	
		8 fl oz bottle RTF/ 32 fl oz bottle RTF	Must be ordered upon request.		
		13 fl oz can concentrate	Must be ordered upon request.		
	Enfamil Gentlease (lactose reduced)	12.4 oz can powder	6 cans		
		Enfamil 24	2 fl oz RTF	Must be ordered upon request.	<input type="checkbox"/>
		EnfaGrow Premium Toddler Transitions/Enfagrow NeuroPro Toddler Transitions	20 oz can powder	Must be ordered upon request.	<input type="checkbox"/>
	EnfaGrow Toddler Transitions Gentlease/Enfagrow NeuroPro Gentlease Toddler Transitions	20 oz can powder	Must be ordered upon request.	<input type="checkbox"/>	
<b>INFANT CEREAL</b> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>No organic</li> <li>No baby cereal in jars</li> <li>No cereal with fruit added</li> <li>No cereal with formula added</li> <li>No DHA ARA</li> </ul>	Dry Cereal		<input type="checkbox"/>		
	Beech Nut	Rice Oatmeal Multigrain			
	Gerber	Rice Oatmeal Multigrain Whole Wheat			
		8 oz Containers	12 Boxes - 2 Types, <b>1 must be Rice</b>		

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• No other size or quantity						
<b>INFANT FRUIT &amp; VEGETABLES</b>  • No organic • No diced • No other brand, combination, or size • No desserts • No pouches • No other combinations	Fruit and / or Vegetable		<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Beech-Nut Naturals Stage 1</li> <li>Beech-Nut Naturals Stage 2</li> <li>Beech- Nut Stage 2</li> <li>Gerber 2<sup>nd</sup> Foods</li> </ul>	4 oz Jars or 2 - 4 oz Twin Packs	72 Jars Combined or 37 – 8 oz Twin Packs	<input type="checkbox"/>
<b>INFANT MEATS</b>	Meats in Gravy or Broth			2.5 oz Jars	* Make this item available for purchase, in sufficient quantity upon request within 5 business days.	<input type="checkbox"/>
<b>FRUITS &amp; VEGETABLES</b>	Fruits			Fresh, Frozen, Canned	<b>Fresh:</b> 20 Types (Combined Fruits and Vegetables)	<input type="checkbox"/>
	Vegetables			Fresh, Frozen, Canned		<input type="checkbox"/>
<b>YOGURT</b>	Activia	Low Fat	Any Flavor	4 oz - 4 Pack	64 ounces – low or non- fat; plain or flavored; any combination of packaging  1 - 32 oz tub, whole milk; plain or flavored	<input type="checkbox"/>
<b>NO</b> Mix-in ingredients such as granola, candy pieces, honey, nuts, and similar ingredients.	Dannon	Whole Milk	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Plain</li> <li>Vanilla</li> <li>Strawberry</li> </ul>	32 oz tub		<input type="checkbox"/>
		Low Fat	Any Flavor			<input type="checkbox"/>
		Non-Fat	Any Flavor			<input type="checkbox"/>
<b>NO</b> Drinkable yogurts	Oikos (Greek)	Whole Milk (4%)	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Plain</li> </ul>	32 oz tub		<input type="checkbox"/>
		Non-Fat (0%)	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Plain</li> <li>Vanilla</li> </ul>			<input type="checkbox"/>
<b>NO</b> “light” yogurts or artificial sweeteners or stevia	Yoplait	Non-Fat	Any Flavor	32 oz tub		<input type="checkbox"/>
		Low Fat		4 oz – 8 pack	<input type="checkbox"/>	
<b>NO</b> organic	GoGurts	Low Fat	Any Flavor	2 oz – 16 pack	<input type="checkbox"/>	
<b>NO</b> fruit fusion						

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YOGURT	Great Value	Non-Fat	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Plain</li> </ul>	32 oz tub	<input type="checkbox"/>
		Low Fat	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Plain</li> <li>• Vanilla</li> <li>• Strawberry</li> <li>• Peach</li> </ul>		<input type="checkbox"/>
		Greek Whole Milk	Plain		<input type="checkbox"/>
		Greek Non-Fat	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Plain</li> <li>• Vanilla</li> <li>• Strawberry</li> </ul>	32 oz tub	<input type="checkbox"/>
	Kroger	Whole Milk	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Plain</li> <li>• Vanilla</li> </ul>	32 oz tub	<input type="checkbox"/>
		Non-Fat	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Plain</li> <li>• Vanilla</li> </ul>	32 oz tub	<input type="checkbox"/>
		Low Fat	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Plain</li> </ul>		<input type="checkbox"/>
	Chobani	Whole Milk	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Plain</li> </ul>	32 oz tub	<input type="checkbox"/>
		Non-Fat	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Plain</li> <li>• Vanilla</li> <li>• Strawberry</li> <li>• Peach</li> </ul>	32 oz tub	<input type="checkbox"/>
		Non-Fat	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Plain</li> </ul>	16 oz	<input type="checkbox"/>
	Crowley	Non-Fat	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Vanilla</li> </ul>	32 oz tub	<input type="checkbox"/>
		Low-Fat	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Plain</li> </ul>		<input type="checkbox"/>
	Noosa	Whole Milk	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Any Flavor</li> </ul>	8 oz	<input type="checkbox"/>
				4 oz- 4 Pack	
				24 oz tub	
	LaYogurt	Whole Milk	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Plain</li> <li>• Strawberry</li> </ul>	32 oz tub	<input type="checkbox"/>
		Non-Fat	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Plain</li> <li>• Vanilla</li> </ul>	32 oz tub	<input type="checkbox"/>
		Low-Fat	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Plain</li> <li>• Vanilla</li> <li>• Banana</li> <li>• Passion Fruit</li> </ul>	32 oz tub	<input type="checkbox"/>
	Best Choice	Low-Fat	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Plain</li> <li>• Vanilla</li> </ul>	32 oz tub	<input type="checkbox"/>
		Greek Non-Fat	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Plain</li> <li>• Vanilla</li> </ul>	32 oz tub	<input type="checkbox"/>
Cabot	Greek Low-Fat	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Plain</li> <li>• Vanilla</li> </ul>	32 oz tub	<input type="checkbox"/>	



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YOGURT		Whole Fat	• Plain	32 oz tub	<input type="checkbox"/>
		Non-Fat	• Plain	32 oz tub	<input type="checkbox"/>
	Essential Everyday	Low-Fat	• Plain • Vanilla • Strawberry • Peach • Raspberry	32 oz tub	<input type="checkbox"/>
		Greek Non-Fat	• Plain • Vanilla • Strawberry	32 oz tub	<input type="checkbox"/>
	Food Club	Non-Fat	• Plain	32 oz tub	<input type="checkbox"/>
		Low-Fat	• Vanilla • Strawberry		<input type="checkbox"/>
	LaLa	Low-Fat	• Plain	32 oz tub	<input type="checkbox"/>
	Nostimo	Greek Non-Fat	• Plain • Vanilla	32 oz tub	<input type="checkbox"/>
	SEGrocers	Non-Fat	• Plain • Vanilla	32 oz tub	<input type="checkbox"/>
		Low-Fat	• Vanilla		<input type="checkbox"/>
		Greek Non-Fat	• Plain		<input type="checkbox"/>
	Coburn Farms	Low-Fat	• Plain • Vanilla	32 oz tub	<input type="checkbox"/>
		Greek Non-Fat	• Plain • Vanilla		<input type="checkbox"/>
	Morning Fresh	Non-Fat	• Plain	32 oz tub	<input type="checkbox"/>
		Low-Fat	• Vanilla		<input type="checkbox"/>
	Food Lion	Non-Fat	• Plain	32 oz tub	<input type="checkbox"/>
Low-Fat		• Vanilla	<input type="checkbox"/>		

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Food Item	Types/Brands	Size	Minimum Inventory	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
<p>WHOLE WHEAT</p> <p>MACARONI PRODUCTS</p> <p><b>NO</b> added sugars, fats, oils, or salt</p> <p><b>NO</b> Organic</p> <p><b>NO</b> other sizes or quantities allowed</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Barilla (whole grain)</li> <li>• Essential Everyday (whole wheat)</li> <li>• Food Club (whole wheat)</li> <li>• Gia Russa (whole wheat)</li> <li>• Great Value (whole wheat)</li> <li>• Hodgson Mill (whole wheat)</li> <li>• Kroger (whole wheat)</li> <li>• Publix (whole wheat and whole grain)</li> <li>• Racconto (whole wheat)</li> <li>• Ronzoni Healthy Harvest (whole grain)</li> <li>• Shurfine (whole wheat)</li> </ul>	<p>16 oz Any Shape</p>	<p>Must be ordered upon request.</p>	<input type="checkbox"/>

**\* NOTE: VENDORS MUST BE ABLE TO ORDER MILK AND SOY CONTRACT FORMULAS, WHOLE WHEAT PASTA, BROWN RICE AND INFANT MEATS OR ANY APPROVED FOOD ITEM WHEN REQUESTED BY THE PARTICIPANT.**

## THE WIC PRINTED VOUCHER

The WIC voucher is similar to a check. A vendor must accept all valid food instruments (vouchers, cash value vouchers, cash value benefits and eWIC cards) with the exception of a pharmacy vendor, who may only redeem food instruments for exempt and special infant formula, including medical foods. The vendor shall not accept counterfeit or altered food instruments.

When vouchers are properly redeemed, the vendor will receive credit for the amount of the purchase by depositing the voucher into the specific account number provided to Georgia WIC by the vendor for deposit of all WIC food instruments at the vendor's bank.

Food instruments are not transferable and cannot be sold. They must only be redeemed and deposited to the account of the vendor that corresponds with the WIC vendor stamp and location listed on the Vendor Agreement or Corporate Attachment Form. Vendors who commit fraud or abuse in the program are subject to criminal prosecution. Those who have willfully misapplied, stolen or fraudulently obtained program funds will be subject to a fine of not more than \$25,000.00 or imprisonment for not more than five years, or both, if the value of the funds is \$100.00 or more. If the value is less than \$100.00, the penalties are fines of not more than \$1,000.00 or imprisonment for not more than one (1) year, or both.

### Printed Voucher Types and Descriptions

There are (5) five types of WIC printed vouchers: laser-printed, blank manual, standard manual, computer generated and cash value vouchers. Descriptions and pictures of the printed vouchers are below.

Laser Printed Vouchers. The laser-printed voucher is printed at the clinic site at the time of the participant, parent's, caretaker's and/or proxy's visit.

DO NOT CASH UNLESS THE FACE OF THIS DOCUMENT HAS A COLORED BACKGROUND AND A FOIL LOGO.													
DIST/UNIT/CLINIC	WIC ID NO.	C	P	PARTICIPANT	VOUCHER NO.	ISSUED BY							
United Community Bank 0611196842072112382				<b>GEORGIA WIC PROGRAM</b>		NOT NEGOTIABLE WITHOUT WIC VENDOR STAMP HERE							
PAY TO THE ORDER OF ANY AUTHORIZED GEORGIA WIC VENDOR				FIRST DAY TO USE		05/10/2014							
FOR THESE ITEMS/QUANTITIES ONLY - WIC APPROVED FOODS ONLY - NO SUBSTITUTIONS				LAST DAY TO USE		06/09/2014							
CPA FPC C01                      FPC C01                      VC C05 MILK:            1 gallon Whole milk only. Least expensive brand.  WHOLE           Pick 2: 16 oz loaf of bread; 16 oz pkg brown rice; GRAIN:           16 oz pkg tortillas; 16 oz pkg buns  BEANS:           1 lb dried OR 4 cans (15 to 16 oz)				VENDOR MUST DEPOSIT WITHIN 60 DAYS OF FIRST DAY TO USE		<table border="1" style="width: 100%; border-collapse: collapse;"> <tr> <th colspan="2" style="text-align: center; font-size: x-small;">PAY EXACTLY</th> </tr> <tr> <td style="width: 50%; font-size: x-small;">DOLLARS</td> <td style="width: 50%; font-size: x-small;">CENTS</td> </tr> <tr> <td style="height: 30px;"></td> <td></td> </tr> </table>		PAY EXACTLY		DOLLARS	CENTS		
				PAY EXACTLY									
				DOLLARS	CENTS								
PARTICIPANT/GUARDIAN/PROXY SIGNATURE		rev. 1-2014											
BUYING, SELLING, OR OTHERWISE MISUSING WIC BENEFITS IS A CRIME. TO REPORT SUSPECTED ABUSE, CALL 800-424-9121 OR VISIT WWW.USDA.GOV/OIG/HOTLINE.HTM.													
⑆436401981⑆ ⑆061119684⑆ 2072112382⑆													

Blank Manual/Handwritten Vouchers. All information on the printed voucher is either handwritten or typed. Redeem only for the amount of food indicated. Only one (1) number should appear in each box. X's are placed in all boxes where there are no numbers. This helps to eliminate any possible unauthorized alterations on the printed voucher. There are two (2) types of Blank Manual/Handwritten Vouchers, which are shown below.

DIST / UNIT / CLINIC 09-2 354		WIC ID NUMBER		PARTICIPANT NAME		RSN	VOUCHER NO. 958010 ?	ISSUED BY																																																							
<b>GEORGIA WIC PROGRAM</b> PAY TO THE ORDER OF ANY AUTHORIZED GEORGIA WIC VENDOR <span style="float: right; font-size: 2em; color: red;">91058</span>						GAC9-EE 6/11 LAST DAY TO USE VENDOR MUST DEPOSIT BY		EXACTLY DOLLARS CENTS \$0.00																																																							
FOR THESE ITEMS / QUANTITIES ONLY - NO SUBSTITUTIONS <table border="1"> <tr> <td>MILK (circle one):</td> <td>WHOLE</td> <td>LOW FAT</td> <td>GOAT MILK EVAP</td> <td>12 oz cans</td> <td>BEANS</td> <td>14 to 16 oz canned</td> </tr> <tr> <td>MILK</td> <td>gallon</td> <td>half gallon</td> <td>SOY MILK</td> <td>half gallon</td> <td>JUICE</td> <td>16 oz dried</td> </tr> <tr> <td>3 QUART POWDERED</td> <td>boxes</td> <td>12 oz cans</td> <td>UHT MILK</td> <td>8 oz boxes</td> <td>WHOLE GRAIN BREAD</td> <td>16 oz package</td> </tr> <tr> <td>EVAPORATED MILK</td> <td>gallon</td> <td>quart</td> <td>CHEESE</td> <td>16 oz package</td> <td>TORTILLA</td> <td>16 oz package</td> </tr> <tr> <td>LACTOSE FREE, ACIDOPHILUS, OR ACIDOPHILUS WITH BIFIDUM</td> <td>half gallon</td> <td>quart</td> <td>EGGS</td> <td>dozen</td> <td>BROWN RICE</td> <td>16 oz package</td> </tr> <tr> <td>GOAT MILK</td> <td>quart</td> <td>quart</td> <td>TOFU</td> <td>pounds</td> <td></td> <td></td> </tr> <tr> <td></td> <td></td> <td></td> <td>FISH</td> <td>oz</td> <td></td> <td></td> </tr> <tr> <td></td> <td></td> <td></td> <td>PEANUT BUTTER</td> <td>16 to 18 oz</td> <td></td> <td></td> </tr> </table>						MILK (circle one):	WHOLE		LOW FAT	GOAT MILK EVAP	12 oz cans	BEANS	14 to 16 oz canned	MILK	gallon	half gallon	SOY MILK	half gallon	JUICE	16 oz dried	3 QUART POWDERED	boxes	12 oz cans	UHT MILK	8 oz boxes	WHOLE GRAIN BREAD	16 oz package	EVAPORATED MILK	gallon	quart	CHEESE	16 oz package	TORTILLA	16 oz package	LACTOSE FREE, ACIDOPHILUS, OR ACIDOPHILUS WITH BIFIDUM	half gallon	quart	EGGS	dozen	BROWN RICE	16 oz package	GOAT MILK	quart	quart	TOFU	pounds						FISH	oz						PEANUT BUTTER	16 to 18 oz			SIGN HERE AT WIC OFFICE IMPROPER USE OF THIS VOUCHER IS SUBJECT TO STATE AND FEDERAL PROSECUTION SIGN HERE AT GROCERY STORE
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DIST / UNIT / CLINIC 09-2 354		WIC ID NUMBER		PARTICIPANT NAME		RSN	VOUCHER NO. 96079010 3	ISSUED BY																																															
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FOR THESE ITEMS / QUANTITIES ONLY - NO SUBSTITUTIONS <table border="1"> <tr> <td>CPA FOOD PACKAGE CODE</td> <td>FOOD PACKAGE CODE</td> <td>VOUCHER CODE</td> <td colspan="3">FORMULA</td> <td colspan="2">INFANT FOODS</td> <td colspan="2">FRUITS AND VEGETABLES</td> </tr> <tr> <td></td> <td></td> <td></td> <td>Name</td> <td>INFANT CEREAL</td> <td>oz infant</td> <td colspan="2">INFANT FRUITS AND VEGETABLES</td> <td colspan="2">Fresh, frozen, or canned. No potatoes except sweet potatoes or yams. No products with added sugar, seasoning, fats, or oils. No creamed vegetables. No stewed or diced tomatoes.</td> </tr> <tr> <td></td> <td></td> <td></td> <td>Form (circle one)</td> <td>VEGETABLES</td> <td>4 oz jars</td> <td colspan="2">NOTE: If using as a fruit and vegetable voucher then do not issue formula and/or infant foods.</td> <td colspan="2" rowspan="2">         SIGN HERE AT GROCERY STORE       </td> </tr> <tr> <td></td> <td></td> <td></td> <td>Ready To Feed</td> <td>INFANT MEATS</td> <td>2.5 oz jars</td> <td colspan="2"></td> </tr> <tr> <td colspan="2">CONTAINER SIZE</td> <td colspan="2">NUMBER OF CONTAINERS</td> <td colspan="2"></td> <td colspan="2"></td> <td colspan="2">         SIGN HERE AT WIC OFFICE          IMPROPER USE OF THIS VOUCHER IS SUBJECT TO STATE AND FEDERAL PROSECUTION          SIGN HERE AT GROCERY STORE       </td> </tr> </table>						CPA FOOD PACKAGE CODE	FOOD PACKAGE CODE		VOUCHER CODE	FORMULA			INFANT FOODS		FRUITS AND VEGETABLES					Name	INFANT CEREAL	oz infant	INFANT FRUITS AND VEGETABLES		Fresh, frozen, or canned. No potatoes except sweet potatoes or yams. No products with added sugar, seasoning, fats, or oils. No creamed vegetables. No stewed or diced tomatoes.					Form (circle one)	VEGETABLES	4 oz jars	NOTE: If using as a fruit and vegetable voucher then do not issue formula and/or infant foods.		SIGN HERE AT GROCERY STORE					Ready To Feed	INFANT MEATS	2.5 oz jars			CONTAINER SIZE		NUMBER OF CONTAINERS						SIGN HERE AT WIC OFFICE IMPROPER USE OF THIS VOUCHER IS SUBJECT TO STATE AND FEDERAL PROSECUTION SIGN HERE AT GROCERY STORE		SIGN HERE AT WIC OFFICE IMPROPER USE OF THIS VOUCHER IS SUBJECT TO STATE AND FEDERAL PROSECUTION SIGN HERE AT GROCERY STORE
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Blank Standard Manual Vouchers. Blank standard manual printed vouchers have the WIC approved foods preprinted on the vouchers. The top portion of the voucher is completed (handwritten) by the clinic staff. These vouchers have two (2) signature boxes.



DIST / UNIT / CLINIC	WIC ID NUMBER	PARTICIPANT NAME	RSN	VOUCHER NO.	ISSUED BY
02-0 059				81081922 7	
<b>GEORGIA WIC PROGRAM</b> <span style="float: right;"><b>81081922</b></span>			FIRST DAY TO USE		
PAY TO THE ORDER OF ANY AUTHORIZED GEORGIA WIC VENDOR FOR THESE ITEMS / QUANTITIES ONLY - NO SUBSTITUTIONS			LAST DAY TO USE		
4 FOOD PACKAGE #21 VOUCHER #06 DRY MILK: 1-3 quart container non-fat dry powder OR 4-12 oz cans low-fat (fat-free, skinned, 2%) evaporated milk  BEANS OR 1 lb dried OR 4 cans (14 to 16 oz) beans PEANUT BUTTER: OR 1 container (16 to 18 oz) peanut butter			GACE 0/11 VENDOR MUST DEPOSIT BY		
SIGN HERE AT WIC OFFICE			PAY EXACTLY		NOT NEGOTIABLE WITHOUT WIC VENDOR STAMP HERE
IMPROPER USE OF THIS VOUCHER IS SUBJECT TO STATE AND FEDERAL PROSECUTION			DOLLARS    CENTS		
SIGN HERE AT GROCERY STORE			UNITED COMMUNITY BANK 64-1968-611		
@B 108 19225 @ :06 1 1 19684: 20721 1238 2 @					

Emergency Computer Generated Vouchers. These printed vouchers are used in case of emergencies. All information on the voucher is computer printed.

DISTRICT / UNIT / CLINIC	WIC ID NO.	C	P	PARTICIPANT	FIRST DAY TO USE
01 1 008	008 679 543	2	6	Wicperson, Jane	07-01-02
<b>GEORGIA WIC PROGRAM</b>				VOUCHER NO.	LAST DAY TO USE
ICES				<b>24612297</b>	07-31-02
PAY TO THE ORDER OF ANY AUTHORIZED GEORGIA WIC VENDOR FOR THESE ITEMS / QUANTITIES ONLY - NO SUBSTITUTIONS				PURCHASE PRICE IT EXCEEDS	VENDOR MUST DEPOSIT BY
FOOD PACKAGE CODE 404    VOUCHER CODE 028 MILK: 1 GAL OR 4-12 OZ CNS EVAP OR 1-5 QT BOX EGGS: 1 DOZEN JUICE: 2-12 OZ CANS FROZEN OR 2-46 OZ CANS OR 2-11.5 OZ CANS POURABLE				17.	08-30-02
YOUR BABY NEEDS SHOTS AT 2 MONTHS, 4 MONTHS, 6 MONTHS, 15 MONTHS, & 5 YEARS				PAY EXACTLY	NOT NEGOTIABLE WITHOUT WIC VENDOR STAMP HERE
IMPROPER USE OF THIS VOUCHER IS SUBJECT TO STATE AND FEDERAL PROSECUTION				DOLLARS    CENTS	
SIGN HERE AT GROCERY STORE				VOID VOID VOID VOID	
@ 246 122973 @ :06 1 1 19684: 2503 14 2 @					

Cash Value/Fruit and Vegetable Vouchers (CVV). A printed CVV is issued for fruits and vegetables.

- CVVs are used to purchase approved fresh, frozen, and canned fruits and vegetables.
- CVVs have a maximum amount listed.
- The WIC participant will be allowed to pay the difference when the cost of their produce exceeds the price stated on the CVV. The amount over the CVV maximum is be subject to tax, when applicable. The WIC participant is responsible for paying the difference plus the applicable sales tax.
- The vendor may need to adjust its current procedures to allow for WIC clients to use payment methods such as SNAP EBT cards, cash, credit cards, or debit cards to complete the CVV transaction.

DO NOT CASH UNLESS THE FACE OF THIS DOCUMENT HAS A COLORED BACKGROUND AND A FOIL LOGO.							
DIST/UNIT/CLINIC	WIC ID NO.	C	P	PARTICIPANT		VOUCHER NO.	ISSUED BY
05 1 087	008 456 104	3	6	SAMPLE, SAMPLE		56376849	CSC
United Community Bank 0611196842072112382 <b>GEORGIA WIC PROGRAM</b> <b>PAY TO THE ORDER OF ANY AUTHORIZED GEORGIA WIC VENDOR</b> FOR THESE ITEMS/QUANTITIES ONLY - WIC APPROVED FOODS ONLY - NO SUBSTITUTIONS				NOT NEGOTIABLE WITHOUT WIC VENDOR STAMP HERE		FIRST DAY TO USE	04/14/2015
						LAST DAY TO USE	05/14/2015
CPA FPC C21                      FPC C21                      VC P01 PRODUCE: \$8 for fresh, frozen, or canned fruit and vegetables.  No products with added sugar, seasonings, fat, or oils. No creamed or candied vegetables.						VENDOR MUST DEPOSIT WITHIN 60 DAYS OF FIRST DAY TO USE	
						PAY EXACTLY	
						DOLLARS	CENTS
							
BUYING, SELLING, OR OTHERWISE MISUSING WIC BENEFITS IS A CRIME. TO REPORT SUSPECTED ABUSE, CALL 800-424-9121 OR VISIT WWW.USDA.GOV/OIG/HOTLINE.HTM.				PARTICIPANT/GUARDIAN/PROXY SIGNATURE		rev. 1-2014	

⑈ 563768496 ⑆ 061119684 ⑆ 2072112382 ⑆

## Processing WIC Printed Vouchers Including Cash Value Vouchers

The vendor's bank should be informed that WIC vouchers are negotiable instruments that must be processed through the Federal Reserve Bank. Georgia WIC will provide each vendor location a Program issued stamp that is embossed with a unique WIC identification number. All vouchers accepted by the vendor location must **only** be stamped with the Georgia WIC Program provided stamp in preparation for a bank deposit. **Only** vouchers stamped with an authorized vendor stamp that is issued by Georgia WIC will be paid. The stamp should be fully depressed onto the WIC voucher so that it is clearly recognizable on the voucher.

**REPRODUCTION OF THE VENDOR STAMP AND USE OF A STAMP NOT ISSUED BY THE GEORGIA WIC PROGRAM IS STRICTLY PROHIBITED.** Authorized vendors **may not** use any other means of placing a vendor number on a voucher other than with the vendor stamp issued by the Georgia WIC Program.

Vouchers stamped or imprinted with an unauthorized stamp, number, stamping device or process will **not** be paid (see section entitled "Important Notes about the Vendor Stamp" for further instructions on the vendor stamp). Payment on any printed voucher rejected by the WIC banking system is at the sole discretion of Georgia WIC.

Vendors who submit vouchers for payment by stamping or imprinting the voucher (1<sup>st</sup> or subsequent attempts) with a device or action other than with the Georgia WIC Program issued stamp are subject to termination of the vendor agreement and may be subject to investigation for fraud as well as a claim for restitution.

Lost, stolen or damaged stamps must be reported to Georgia WIC immediately. Return damaged stamps to the Georgia WIC Office of Vendor Management.

## Minimum Requirements for Payment

- Vouchers must be issued by Georgia WIC or its authorized local agencies, printed on official Georgia WIC paper, and unaltered.
- Vouchers are accepted on the "First Day to Use" date through the "Last Day to Use" date.
- An authorized WIC vendor stamp appears on the voucher, is legible, and the vouchers deposited to the single account provided to Georgia WIC by the vendor.
- Deposited within sixty days of the "First Day to Use" date.
- The amount of purchase is entered in the "PAY EXACTLY SPACE" in ink.
- When stamping, use black ink ONLY with your WIC vendor stamp. DO NOT use any other color of ink.
- A signature is obtained from the participant, in black ink, provided by the vendor, at the time of purchase.
- For cash value vouchers, the vendor must not issue change to a WIC customer for purchases that are less than the total value of the cash value voucher.
- For cash value vouchers, the WIC customer may use his/ her own funds for purchase amounts in excess of the monetary limit for his/her cash value voucher.

## WIC Customer Transactions at the Store

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WIC food instruments may be presented at authorized vendor locations by WIC participants, parents, caretakers, or proxies (WIC customer). WIC customers are required to take their WIC ID folder to each visit to the store when transacting with printed vouchers. Vendors must request the WIC customer to present the WIC ID folder at the time of the printed voucher transaction. WIC vendors shall **not** request any other form of identification from WIC customers in order to transact a printed WIC voucher.

**WIC foods must be separated from other food purchases prior to the WIC transaction. When approved supplemental food is being purchased with a WIC voucher, the cashier must complete each voucher separately and do the following:**

### Steps to Follow When Accepting WIC Food Instruments

---

1. Check the participant's WIC ID card/folder when transacting with printed vouchers. The WIC customer's name must be listed on the ID card/folder. If the WIC customer does not present a WIC ID card, then the printed vouchers cannot be redeemed.
2. For printed manual vouchers that contain two signature boxes, make sure that the "*Sign here at WIC office*" signature box contains a signature.
3. Check the dates on the voucher. Vouchers cannot be used before the "First Day to Use" or after the "Last Day to Use" dates.
4. Ring up the current shelf price of the food for each voucher. Make sure that the exact types and amounts of approved WIC foods are being purchased.
5. Print in black ink the amount of the WIC purchase in the "Pay Exactly" space, on the printed voucher, in the presence of the WIC customer. Complete this step for one printed voucher prior to moving on to the next printed voucher.
6. When transacting with printed vouchers, obtain a signature from the WIC customer, which must match the signature on the WIC ID card.
7. WIC customers must not be given credit or cash in exchange for WIC food instruments.
8. If the cashier makes a mistake entering the price on the printed voucher, the incorrect price should be marked through, and the correct price written above the error. The cashier must initial the correction as verification.
9. If the cash registers do not automatically imprint "WIC" on the receipt, cashiers must write "WIC" vertically on all receipts for food purchased with WIC vouchers.
10. The cashier must provide the WIC customer with a receipt and keep a copy of the receipt for the vendor's records.



## Steps to Follow When Accepting Printed Cash Value Vouchers (CVV)

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1. Check the participant's WIC ID card/folder when transacting with printed vouchers. The WIC customer's name must be listed on the ID card/ folder. If the WIC customer does not present a WIC ID card, then the cash value voucher cannot be redeemed.
2. For manual vouchers that contain two signature boxes, make sure that the "*Sign here at WIC office*" signature box contains a signature.
3. Check the date on the face of the printed voucher. CVVs cannot be used before the "First Day to Use" date or after the "Last day to Use" date.
4. Check the food items. They must be fruits and vegetables that cannot be purchased with the regular printed WIC voucher.
5. Weigh the fruits or vegetables and/or ring up the current shelf price of the food for each item chosen. Make sure that the exact types of approved WIC foods (fruits and vegetables) are being purchased.
6. CVVs will be issued in specified, maximum dollar amounts.
7. Ring up price of the purchase.
8. Write the price of the purchase in the "Pay Exactly" space in black ink in the presence of the WIC Customer. Complete this step for one CVV before moving on to the next CVV.
9. Obtain a signature from the WIC customer, which must match the signature on the WIC ID card.
10. If the purchase amount is over the max price listed on the face of the CVV, the participant may pay cash or check, credit or SNAP EBT for the amount over the max price on the CVV.
11. Include tax for the amount over the maximum on the face of the CVV, if applicable. This amount is not a part of the WIC transaction. Give change for any amount over the face of the CVV. This is not a part of the WIC transaction. Change is not permitted for purchases that are less than the max price listed on the CVV.
12. WIC customers must not be given credit or cash in exchange for CVVs.
13. If the cashier makes a mistake entering the price on the CVV, the incorrect price should be marked through, and the correct price written above the error. The cashier must initial the correction.
14. If the cash register does not automatically print "WIC" on the receipt, cashiers must write "WIC" vertically on all receipts for WIC food purchases.
15. The cashier must provide the WIC customer with a receipt and keep a copy for the vendor's records.

If the amount of the CVV is less than the maximum amount on the face of the CVV, do not give change and do not charge sales tax. If the price of the purchase is over the amount on the face of the CVV, charge the maximum amount of the purchase to the CVV. Your store will be responsible for collecting any difference over the maximum amount of the CVV. Tax can be charged for the amount over the maximum on the face of the food instrument. The WIC customer can pay the amount over the maximum in cash, credit, debit, SNAP EBT, or check. Change can be given for cash payment for any difference over the amount of the maximum for the CVV. That amount is not a part of the WIC transaction.

## Important Notes about the WIC Customer for Cashiers and Store Managers

The WIC customer:

1. Must present a WIC ID card to redeem printed vouchers.
2. Must sign the printed vouchers, at the time of purchase, in black ink, provided by the vendor.
3. May not use a WIC food instrument to purchase items not listed (on the voucher or eWIC card benefit balance).
4. Must never be required to pay cash for items purchased except for items purchased with the cash value/ fruit and vegetable food instrument, in excess of the amount on the food instrument.
5. Must be allowed to purchase all foods listed on the food instrument or CVV, regardless of price.
6. Must be afforded the same courtesies given to other store customers.
7. Must be permitted to purchase eligible food items without making other purchases.
8. Must be charged the same shelf prices as other non-WIC customers.
9. Must not be charged sales tax, except on the purchase amount that is in excess of the amount on the cash value/ fruit and vegetable voucher or cash value/ fruit and vegetable benefit, if applicable.
10. Must be reported to Georgia WIC immediately if they attempt to purchase foods that are not approved or create other problems in the store.
11. Must not be required to purchase every item on the printed voucher.
12. Must not be contacted regarding restitution, payment or to obtain a missing signature.

### More Important Notes.

1. WIC approved foods purchased with a WIC food instrument cannot be returned for a cash refund.
2. WIC food instruments from other states must not be accepted.
3. If a manager is called to approve a WIC food instrument transaction, it is imperative that the customer is not identified as a WIC participant, parent, caretaker and/or proxy. Every effort must be made to protect confidentiality and discussion of the transaction should be kept at a conversational level.
4. Separate checkout lines for the WIC customer are prohibited. Signs such as “WIC food instruments not allowed in this line” or “No Checks-No WIC” cannot be displayed. However, vendors who wish to ensure that the WIC customer does not enter certain lines, such as express lines, may post “Cash Only” signs in those lines.

5. Every store must check the customer's WIC identification card for the proper WIC ID number and authorized signature(s) when transacting printed vouchers. WIC customers have been instructed about the importance of carrying the WIC ID card to the grocery store when using WIC printed vouchers. Printed vouchers cannot be redeemed without the WIC ID card which shows the name of the person redeeming the vouchers.
6. Whenever vouchers are lost or stolen from a WIC health facility, Georgia WIC will notify area vendors that a stop payment has been placed on the voucher. Vendors will be provided the voucher numbers and informed not to accept the vouchers for redemption. These vouchers will not be paid. Lost or stolen eWIC cards will be disabled.
7. The vendor must not provide refunds or permit exchanges for authorized supplemental foods obtained with food instruments except for exchanges of the same brand and size of authorized supplemental food items when the original authorized supplemental food item is defective, recalled, spoiled, or has exceeded its "sell by" or "best if used by," or other date limiting the sale or use of the food item.
8. The WIC customer must be allowed to participate in in-store or manufacturer promotions that are available to all other customers, and that includes WIC approved food items. This includes 'buy one get one or more free' promotions.
9. The WIC authorized vendor, its paid or unpaid owners, officers, managers, agents and employees shall not engage in any activity with the WIC participant, proxy, or caretaker that would create a conflict of interest, as determined by Georgia WIC. Authorized WIC vendors are not permitted to act as a proxy for a WIC participant.
10. The vendor is not permitted to provide transportation for the WIC customer to or from the vendor's premises.
11. The vendor is not permitted to deliver WIC approved foods to the WIC customer's residence.
12. The vendor shall not take back items purchased by the participant, nor shall a vendor ask about obtaining food items that the participant chooses not to buy with the WIC printed voucher.
13. The vendor must not provide unauthorized food or non-food items, cash, credit (including "rain checks") in exchange for food instruments.
14. Georgia WIC will review printed vouchers submitted for redemption to ensure compliance with price limitations and to detect suspected vendor overcharges and other errors.
15. Georgia WIC may require reimbursement for the full price of the printed voucher that contains a vendor overcharge or other error detected because of compliance investigations, printed voucher reviews, or other reviews or investigations of a vendor's operations.

## Voucher Payment Procedures

**All** authorized vendors are required to enroll in the Automated Clearing House (ACH) for payment of WIC printed vouchers that exceed the maximum allowable price. At the time of authorization and re-authorization, vendors are also required to provide a single account number to which the vendor will deposit all WIC printed vouchers. If this account number changes, the vendor must notify Georgia WIC in writing within two (2) business days. Upon authorization, the ACH Enrollment Form is sent with the Vendor Stamp. **The form must be completed and submitted immediately to the address indicated on the form.** Vendors will have five (5) business days from the date of receipt of the ACH Enrollment Form to enroll. Failure to enroll within the allotted timeframe will result in termination of the vendor agreement.

Approved payments will be posted to the vendor's bank account immediately. Vendors will be able to view their ACH statements on-line at any time on the WIC Banking website at [www.wicbanking.com](http://www.wicbanking.com) by entering their personal User ID and Password.

User ID and Passwords will be provided by Georgia WIC once the ACH enrollment form has been completed and forwarded to the WIC data processing contractor indicated on the form. Users are urged to change their password when entering the system for the first time. Assistance with changing passwords may be obtained from Georgia WIC at 404-657-2900 or toll free at 1-866-814-5468.

For information regarding redemption of eWIC benefits by vendors, see the section entitled *Payments to WIC Vendors for eWIC Transactions* on page 14.

## Return Voucher Payment Procedures

- If the purchase price on a printed voucher exceeds the maximum allowable price for the voucher, it will be returned from the bank and stamped "Amount Exceeds Limit – Paid via ACH – Do Not Resubmit". The voucher will be paid at a rate equal to the **average redeemed price for that voucher code for the vendor's peer group.**
- Vouchers returned by the vendor's bank stamped "invalid vendor stamp," "unreadable vendor stamp," "missing vendor stamp," or "encoding error" should be corrected and resubmitted for payment through the vendor's bank of deposit. When in doubt, contact the Vendor Relations Unit for technical assistance when the voucher has been returned for "unreadable vendor stamp" or "missing vendor stamp". Once a submitted voucher has been rejected for any of the above reasons, the vendor has 45 days to resubmit the voucher before it will be considered stale and unredeemable.
- If the redeposit is unsuccessful, or for vouchers returned by the vendor's bank for reasons other than those listed above, send an email communication requesting technical assistance to the Office of Vendor Management. Provide an explanation outlining why the vouchers were returned and require a review for payment consideration. Do not send actual vouchers to the Georgia WIC Program. They will be returned to the vendor.
- Vouchers returned by the vendor's bank stamped "stale date," "post date", "altered" or "signature missing" **will not be paid.**

## Vendor Redemption and Pricing Assessments

Food Instrument redemption data on all vendors will be reviewed on a quarterly basis, at a minimum.

Any vendor with less than \$2,000.00 in annual WIC redemptions (annual equals a 12-month period) or not redeeming any WIC food instruments within a sixty (60) day timeframe will be terminated from the program for a period of one (1) year.

WIC vendors are required to maintain competitiveness throughout the entire agreement period.

Non-competitive pricing for redemptions occurs when the amount paid per food instrument by Georgia WIC to a vendor, per quarter, for all food instruments except cash value benefits, exempt infant formulas, and medical foods exceeds the statewide average amount paid per food instrument redeemed within the peer group by more than 50% on 10 or more items. If a vendor is found to be non-competitive during an assessment, the vendor will receive written notice. If the vendor is identified as non-competitive for three (3) additional assessments, the vendor agreement will be terminated for a period of twelve (12) months.

Vendors are required to submit and maintain prices that are at, or lower than, other vendors currently participating in the program, within their designated peer group. Vendors must submit shelf pricing each quarter, at a minimum. If a vendor's prices **are more than ten (10) percent higher** than the maximum prices of others in its Peer Group **on more than three (3) items** – the vendor will receive a written notification that its pricing is not competitive. Vendors may be assessed at any time and those whose prices remain non-competitive for three (3) additional assessments, the vendor agreement will be terminated for a period of twelve (12) months.

Pharmacies and military commissaries are exempt from these redemption assessments.

## Vendor Cost Containment

Printed vouchers that are deposited in the vendor's bank, and that contain a dollar amount in the "pay exactly box" that exceeds the statewide and/or peer group Maximum Allowable Reimbursement Level (MARL) will be returned by the bank.

Georgia WIC will conduct an annual assessment of each current vendor, except pharmacies and military commissaries, to determine if they derive more than fifty (50) percent of their food revenue from WIC food instruments. Vendors will also be assessed at re-authorization. New vendors will be assessed within six (6) months of authorization to determine if they derive more than fifty (50) percent of their food revenue from WIC food instruments.

Georgia WIC uses vendor reported shelf prices to determine the Maximum Allowable Shelf Prices for food items and the Maximum Allowable Reimbursable Limit for food instruments redeemed monthly. Food instruments submitted by vendors in peer groups J through E are paid according to the MARL for their peer group. The WIC vendor agrees to accept an adjustment in the dollar amount written in the 'pay exactly'

box of the WIC food instrument if the dollar amount exceeds the statewide average and/or peer group MARL. Vendors who exceed the MARL will be paid based upon the average shelf price, which will be based on the average shelf prices for all comparable stores in the same peer group and/or the statewide average for a given time period.

All redeemed food items must have a corresponding and preceding shelf price submission for each authorized store location. Shelf price data is used to establish a database of prices and will aid in alleviating redemption issues for infrequently used food instruments. Vendors are encouraged to submit prices for new items as well as price changes of existing items **at any time**.

All vendors, except pharmacies and military commissaries, will be assessed at application, within six (6) months after authorization, and annually thereafter to determine whether they derive more than fifty (50) percent of their SNAP eligible food sales from WIC redemptions. Georgia WIC will conduct an initial Food Sales Assessment based on programmatic reports to determine whether a vendor is a Probable Above Fifty Percent Vendor (A-50).

Upon notification of Probable A-50 Status, vendors may challenge the initial findings by requesting a detailed Food Sales Assessment to demonstrate that their eligible food sales are less than their WIC sales. A vendor must submit its request for a detailed Food Sales Assessment within fifteen (15) days of the date of the Notice of Probable A-50 Status. A vendor will be determined to be an Above Fifty-Percent Vendor if: (1) it fails to follow the procedures to request a detailed Food Sales Assessment, (2) it fails to provide the documents or information required, (3) it fails to cooperate with the assessment process; or, (4) if the detailed Food Sales Assessment confirms that a vendor is an Above-Fifty Percent vendor.

Applicants or vendors that are determined to be an A-50 vendor will be denied at authorization or terminated from the program unless it is determined that denial of authorization for the vendor would result in inadequate participant access. Vendors determined to be A-50 will receive notification, which contains instructions on how to appeal the denial or termination under the Administrative Review procedures in place. Vendors that remain on the program due to inadequate participant access will be moved to Peer Group G.

## Important Notes about the Vendor Stamp

- Lost, stolen, or damaged stamps must be reported to Georgia WIC immediately.
- Damaged stamps must be returned to Georgia WIC immediately.
- The vendor stamp must be kept in a secure location at all times.
- Vendors are NOT permitted to reproduce the vendor stamp. Vendors who redeem printed vouchers stamped with a reproduced stamp or stamping device that was not issued by the Georgia WIC Program may be subject to investigation for fraud and a claim for restitution.
- Vendors will be held responsible for the unauthorized use of the vendor stamp by their paid or unpaid owners, officers, managers, agents, and employees.
- If the inkpad dries out, it is the vendor's responsibility to replenish the removable pad, **using only water based, black liquid ink**.
- The vendor stamp is **not** transferable to another location or individual.
- Vouchers stamped with an unauthorized vendor stamp or stamping device **will not** be paid.