GEORGIA WIC PROGRAM POLICY AND PROCEDURES MANUAL

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WIC Overseas Program Policy No. CT- 840.07

Effective Date: October 1, 2016

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Policy

WIC participants affiliated with the military who are transferred overseas and meet eligibility requirements are eligible to participate in the WIC Overseas Program until the end of their certification period.

WIC participants issued a Verification of Certification (VOC) must be instructed that:(1) there is no guarantee that the WIC Overseas Program will be operational at the overseas site where they will be transferred, (2) by law only certain individuals are eligible for the WIC Overseas Program, and (3) issuance of a WIC VOC does not guarantee continued eligibility and participation in the WIC Overseas Program. WIC clinics must issue a Verification of Certification to WIC participants affiliated with the military who will be transferred overseas.

Clinics should ensure that all VOC's issued are thoroughly completed.

Purpose

To provide guidelines for accepting a valid WIC Overseas Program VOC card and to describe the process of providing WIC benefits to eligible applicants living abroad through the Department of Defense.

Procedures

- I. Provide services to WIC Overseas Program participant who returns to the U.S. with a valid WIC Overseas Program Verification of Certification (VOC) card.
- II. Follow the same procedures outlined in <u>Transfer of Certification Policy</u> when completing the EVOC or VOC card for a transfer overseas.
- III. Place special emphasis on completing the EVOC cards with the necessary data to prevent long distance overseas communications.
- IV. Accept a valid WIC Overseas Program VOC card presented at a WIC clinic by WIC Overseas Program participants returning to the U.S. from an overseas assignment.
 - A. Follow the current procedures outlined in Transfer of Certification Policy.
 - B. Use list of <u>WIC Overseas Program Contacts</u> (see <u>WIC Overseas Program</u> <u>Contacts</u>) if questions arise about the VOC card presented.

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- C. Request proof of residency and identification in accordance with WIC regulations and policies.
- V. Visit the TRICARE Website at: <u>http://www.tricare.mil/wic/</u> for locations and additional information about DOD's WIC Overseas Programs.
- VI. Inform participants to contact their base to determine continued eligibility.

Authority

United States Department of Agriculture (USDA) – Food and Nutrition Services (FNS) WIC Policy Memo 2016-4, Verification of Certification

Definitions/Supporting Information

Dependent - includes a spouse and "U.S. national" who are U.S. citizens or individuals who are not U.S. citizens but owe permanent allegiance to the U.S. as determined in accordance with the Immigration and Nationality Act.

Participant Profile Report/VOC Card-The Department of Defense (DOD) WIC Overseas Program Verification of Certification (VOC) card, which also serves as a participant profile report (see **DOD WIC Overseas Program VOC Card**).

WIC Overseas Program- An overseas program like WIC implemented by the Department of Defense using DoD funds for active duty military personnel, civilian employees and contractors of the DoD living overseas, or their family members, who are eligible for WIC.