PARTICIPANT RIGHTS

WIC participants have the right to

• fair and respectful treatment
• use any grocery store or pharmacy in New York State that is authorized to accept WIC
• request a transfer to another WIC agency
• be told in advance when and why WIC Program benefits will end
• confidentiality
• access all services offered by WIC, including a tailored food package

Did you know?

Vendors are not required to stock all WIC Acceptable Foods. For additional guidance or if you have questions contact your local agency.
WHY IS WIC IMPORTANT?

WIC provides healthy food and a whole lot more.

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USING THIS GUIDE

The purpose of this guide is to help make shopping for WIC foods easier.

NYS WIC offers a large variety of nutritious foods. While you are shopping, use the colored tabs to shop by food category. Choose the foods that your family likes based on what is listed on your WIC checks and what is available where you shop.

You will see the icons below throughout this foods guide. They will be your guide in getting to know and identify your WIC foods.

GET TO KNOW YOUR WIC FOODS

LOOK FOR THIS “CAN BUY” LABEL
Items in this area are allowed for purchase with your WIC checks.

THE “CANNOT BUY” SECTION
Items in this area are not allowed for purchase with your WIC checks.

“ANY BRAND”
Some WIC foods are available by brand name only. When you see this flag, you can choose ANY brand within this category.

WIC TIPS
Search for this star to learn helpful WIC shopping tips.
BEFORE YOU SHOP, MAKE SURE YOU HAVE:

- Your **WIC ID** Card
- This **WIC Foods Guide**
- Your **UNSIGNED WIC checks** with valid dates

**TIP**

**ONLY TAKE THE CHECKS THAT CAN BE USED DURING THIS VISIT**

- The **WIC ID Number**
- Name of person or family for whom the food is intended.
- The “Not Good Before” date is the earliest the check can be used.
- The “Not Good After” date is the latest date the check can be used.
- The “Pay Exactly” Box is where the vendor enters the total purchase price for the items on the check.
- Line where the participant or proxy signs in **BLUE OR BLACK INK** after the correct dollar amount has been entered in the “Pay Exactly” box.
- Line where the participant or proxy writes in date in **BLUE OR BLACK INK**; using the same format as the dates in the Not Good Before/Not Good After boxes, AFTER the correct dollar amount has been entered in the “Pay Exactly” box.

The foods the participant must buy with this check. Use NYS WIC Foods Guide to verify correct foods.
2 WHILE SHOPPING:

☐ Look carefully at what is listed on your WIC check.

☐ Use this shopping guide to help you select WIC approved foods.

☐ Your WIC check will tell you how many (1 container) and the size (64 ounces) of each product you can get.
3 BEFORE CHECKOUT:

☐ Gather all the foods listed on each check.

☐ Find a checkout lane that is not express, cash only, or self-checkout.

4 AT THE REGISTER:

☐ Place your WIC items on the checkout counter grouped together by check.

☐ Place the matching unsigned WIC check on top of each group of these items.

☐ Tell the cashier you will be using your WIC checks.

☐ Never pre-sign your WIC checks.

☐ After the cashier writes the total cost in the PAY EXACTLY box, sign and date the check in BLUE OR BLACK INK.
SHOPPING CHECKLIST

TIP

DO:
• It is preferred that checks are dated MM/DD/YYYY (example: 04/28/2015).
• It is also okay to use other date formats common in the United States (examples: 4/28/15, 04/28/15).
• If a participant or proxy makes a mistake dating the check, the participant/proxy should put a line through the date, initial, and write the correct date above the mistake.

DON’T:
• It is not ok to use words to write the month (example: April 28, 2015).
• A date stamp may not be used to “date” the check.

DO NOT SIGN AND DATE YOUR WIC CHECKS UNTIL AFTER THE CASHIER WRITES YOUR TOTAL ON THE CHECK.
MILK
GOOD SOURCE OF CALCIUM, PROTEIN AND VITAMIN D

CHECK YOUR MILK TYPE
Your WIC check lists the fat content you must buy. Buy the milk type printed on your WIC check. (For example: nonfat, 1%, whole, lactose free, kosher, goat’s milk)

TIP

COW’S MILK
Buy the largest container available or the size listed on the WIC check (gallons, 96 ounces, half gallons, or quarts)

CAN BUY ANY BRAND

EVAPORATED/CANNED MILK
12 oz. container only

DRY/POWDERED MILK
25.6 oz. container only

EVAPORATED/CANNED GOAT’S MILK
Meyenberg brand only 12 oz. container only

CANNOT BUY:
• Flavored, organic, or sweetened condensed milk
• Buttermilk or milk with added calcium
• Reduced fat (2%) milk
CHEESE
GOOD SOURCE OF PROTEIN AND CALCIUM

• Pasteurized processed American, Monterey Jack, Mozzarella, Cheddar, Colby, Swiss, Muenster, Provolone, or blends of any of these cheeses
• Purchase in blocks or slices
• Must add up to the number of ounces on check (can be 1 or more packages)
• **KOSHER CHEESE** if printed on your WIC check OR if the store does not carry any other kind of cheese

**CANNOT BUY:**
- Imported cheese
- Cracker cuts
- Flavored or organic cheese
- Cheese foods, products or spreads
- Shredded, grated, cubed, string, or stick cheese
- Individually wrapped slices
YOGURT
GOOD SOURCE OF PROTEIN AND CALCIUM

• Exactly 32 oz. container OR any combination of sizes that adds up to exactly 32 ounces.

• **Any brand:** plain, plain Greek, organic plain, organic plain Greek

• **KOSHER YOGURT** if printed on your WIC check OR if the store does not have non-kosher items available

---

CANNOT BUY:

• Flavored (such as vanilla, fruit)

• Mix-in ingredients (granola, candy, etc)

• Frozen yogurt

• Drinkable/squeezable yogurt
TOFU
GOOD SOURCE OF PROTEIN AND CALCIUM

14-16 OUNCE PACKAGES

Azumaya:
Firm, Extra Firm

House:
Premium or Organic – Soft, Medium Firm, Firm, Extra Firm

Nasoya:
Organic – Silken, Lite Firm, Firm, Extra Firm

Nature’s Promise:
Organic – Firm

San Sui:
Soft, Firm, Extra Firm

Wegmans:
Organic – Firm

SOY BEVERAGES
GOOD SOURCE OF PROTEIN, CALCIUM AND VITAMIN D

Pacific Natural Foods:
Ultra Soy – Original and Vanilla
Allowed sizes:
• 32 oz. carton

8th Continent:
Soy milk – Original and Vanilla
Allowed sizes:
• 64 oz. refrigerated carton

Silk:
Soy milk – Original
Allowed sizes:
• 32 oz. refrigerated carton
• 64 oz. refrigerated carton
• 128 oz. refrigerated multi-pack

Westsoy:
Organic Plus Soy milk – Plain
Allowed sizes:
• 32 oz. or 64 oz. carton

Plus Soy milk – Vanilla
Allowed sizes:
• 32 oz. or 64 oz. carton
EGGS
GOOD SOURCE OF PROTEIN

CAN BUY ANY BRAND

MEDIUM OR LARGE: White or brown eggs

CANNOT BUY:
- Jumbo and extra large eggs
- High-cost specialty eggs (including organic, reduced cholesterol, cage free/free range, omega-3)
BEANS, PEAS, LENTILS
GOOD SOURCE OF PROTEIN, IRON AND FIBER

**CAN BUY ANY BRAND**

**DRY**
- Any brand: 1-pound bag of mature beans, peas, or lentils

**CANNED**
- Any brand: 15-16 ounce can of mature beans, peas, lentils

**TIP**
To lower salt intake, rinse canned beans, peas, lentils

**CANNOT BUY:**
- Baked beans, pork and beans
- Canned beans containing added sugars, fats, meat, or oils
- Green beans, green peas, snap beans, yellow beans, and wax beans may not be purchased with a WIC check that says “Beans, Peas, Lentils”; you may use your WIC Vegetables and Fruits check to purchase these types of foods.
PEANUT BUTTER
GOOD SOURCE OF PROTEIN

16-18 OUNCE JAR
Any brand: crunchy, chunky, creamy, smooth, natural and reduced fat varieties are allowed.

CANNOT BUY:
• Peanut spread
• Organic peanut butter
• Freshly ground or whipped peanut butter
• Peanut butter mixed with jelly, marshmallow, chocolate or honey
• Peanut butter with added vitamins and minerals, or other added ingredients (Omega 3, DHA & EPA, Palm Oil, etc.)

CANNED FISH
GOOD SOURCE OF PROTEIN AND IRON

CANNED FISH
GOOD SOURCE OF PROTEIN AND IRON

CANNOT BUY:
• Albacore tuna
• Blueback salmon
• Red Salmon
• Flavored Salmon
• With added ingredients

TIP
To lower fat intake, choose water-packed fish.

CANNED FISH
GOOD SOURCE OF PROTEIN AND IRON

Can buy:

16-18 OUNCE JAR
Any brand: crunchy, chunky, creamy, smooth, natural and reduced fat varieties are allowed.

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CANNED FISH
GOOD SOURCE OF PROTEIN AND IRON

CANNED FISH
GOOD SOURCE OF PROTEIN AND IRON

CANNOT BUY:
• Albacore tuna
• Blueback salmon
• Red Salmon
• Flavored Salmon
• With added ingredients

TIP
To lower fat intake, choose water-packed fish.
Juice for children comes in these sizes:
- 64 ounce plastic bottles
- 16 ounce containers (frozen concentrates)

Juice for women comes in these sizes:
- 11.5 ounce containers (shelf-stable concentrates)
- 11.5 – 12 ounce containers (frozen concentrates)

Your WIC checks lists the size of juice you should buy.

Look through each juice category to see which brands and flavors are allowed.

ANY STORE BRAND includes store names AND these brands of 100% juice with 120% or more Vitamin C:

- America’s Choice
- Essential Everyday
- Hytop
- Richfood
- Best Yet
- Flavorite
- Krasdale
- Shurfine
- Clear Value
- Food Club
- Nature’s Own
- Super A
- Crisp
- Great Value
- Parade
- Tipton Grove
- Delsea Farm
- Harvest Classic
- Red & White
- White Rose

CANNOT BUY:
- Organic juice
- Anything that is not 100% juice
100% JUICE
GOOD SOURCES OF VITAMIN C

64 OZ. PLASTIC BOTTLE CITRUS

ANY BRAND OF:
• 100% Orange Juice
• 100% Grapefruit Juice
• 100% Pineapple Juice

64 OZ. PLASTIC BOTTLES

Apple: ANY STORE BRAND and the following brands:
• Apple & Eve
• Juicy Juice
• Langers
• Lucky Leaf
• Mott’s
• Musselman’s
• Old Orchard
• Seneca
• Sesame Street

Juice Blends: ANY STORE BRAND and the following brands and flavors:
• Juicy Juice: Apple Raspberry, Berry, Cherry, Punch, Kiwi Strawberry, Mango, Orange Tangerine, Strawberry Banana, Tropical
• Langers: Apple Berry Cherry, Apple Cranberry, Apple Kiwi Strawberry, Apple Grape, Apple Orange Pineapple, Disney Apple Cranberry Grape
• Old Orchard: Acai Pomegranate, Apple Cranberry, Berry Blend, Blueberry Pomegranate, Cherry Pomegranate, Peach Mango, Wild Cherry
• Sesame Street: Cookie Monster’s Berry, Elmo’s Punch

CANNOT BUY:
• Grape juice (except in juice blends)
• Refrigerated cartons
100% JUICE
GOOD SOURCES OF VITAMIN C

11.5 OZ. CONCENTRATES SHELF STABLE

CAN BUY

WELCH’S
Any Flavor

11.5 OZ. – 12 OZ. CONCENTRATES FROZEN

APPLE

ANY STORE BRAND and the following brands:
• Langers
• Old Orchard
• Seneca

GRAPEFRUIT, ORANGE, PINEAPPLE – ANY BRAND

GRAPE

Purple and White: ANY STORE BRAND and the following brands:
• Langers
• Old Orchard
• Welch’s

JUICE BLENDS – ANY STORE BRAND and the following brands:

DOLE:
Any flavor

LANGERS:
Autumn Blend
Spring Blend
Summer Blend
Winter Blend

OLD ORCHARD:
All flavors with
dark green lid

WELCH’S:
All flavors
with yellow lid

16 OZ. CONCENTRATES FROZEN

CAN BUY

APPLE

GRAPEFRUIT, ORANGE,
PINEAPPLE

JUICE BLENDS
FRESH VEGETABLES AND FRUITS

- Any variety of fresh vegetables and fruits
- May be whole or cut up
- Bagged salad mixtures, bagged vegetables
- Checks will specify ‘Fresh Only’ or ‘Fresh/Frozen/Canned’

- Organic vegetables and fruits are allowed
- Some checks for infants will specify “1-4 counts” of bananas. A “count” is equal to one banana. Example: 3 counts of bananas = 3 bananas.

CANNOT BUY:

- Items from the salad bar
- Party trays, fruit baskets, decorative vegetables and fruits
- Dried fruits and vegetables

- Nuts, including peanuts, fruit/nut mixtures
- Herbs, spices, salad dressing

TIP

PAY THE DIFFERENCE ON WIC VEGETABLE & FRUIT CHECKS

DID YOU KNOW? You may pay the difference when the cost of your vegetables and fruits is MORE than the dollar value printed on the WIC check.
VEGETABLES & FRUITS
GOOD SOURCE OF VITAMINS, MINERALS AND FIBER

TIP
HOW TO GET MORE FOOD?...
WEIGH THEM!

PLACE the item on the scale.
ROUND the weight up to the nearest pound or half pound.
ESTIMATE the cost of the item based on the chart below.

CHART FOR FRESH PRODUCE

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Price per Pound (lb.)</th>
<th>1 lb.</th>
<th>1½ lbs.</th>
<th>2 lbs.</th>
<th>2½ lbs.</th>
<th>3 lbs.</th>
<th>3½ lbs.</th>
<th>4 lbs.</th>
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<tbody>
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<td>0.49</td>
<td>0.74</td>
<td>0.98</td>
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<td>1.39</td>
<td>2.09</td>
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<td>4.17</td>
<td>4.87</td>
<td>5.56</td>
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<td>8.72</td>
<td>9.96</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

EXAMPLE: Four pears weigh 1.6 pounds (lbs.). The price is $1.59 per pound. ROUND up to 2 lbs. Find 2 lbs. on top row. On the left green column, trace down to $1.59 (which is the price per lb. in this example). THE ESTIMATED TOTAL FOR THIS ITEM IS: $3.18
VEGETABLES & FRUITS
GOOD SOURCE OF VITAMINS, MINERALS AND FIBER

FROZEN VEGETABLES
• Any brand
• Any container/package type
• Any size
• Vegetable must be the first ingredient

CANNOT BUY:
• Ingredients other than fruit
• Added sugar
• Any variety of vegetable, vegetable mixtures
• Frozen beans, peas and lentils are allowed
• With or without salt

FROZEN FRUITS
• Any brand
• Any container/package type
• Any size
• Fruit must be the first ingredient
• Any variety of fruit, fruit mixtures

CANNOT BUY:
• Cheese sauce; any other type of sauce
• Breaded
• Added sugars, fats or oils

Did you know?
Frozen vegetables and fruits have a longer shelf life and are just as nutritious as fresh vegetables and fruits.
VEGETABLES & FRUITS
GOOD SOURCE OF VITAMINS, MINERALS AND FIBER

CANNED VEGETABLES

- Any brand
- May be regular or low sodium/salt
- Any variety of vegetable, vegetable mixtures
- Any size
- Any container/package type

- Vegetable must be the first ingredient
- Canned tomatoes (paste, puree, whole, crushed, stewed, diced, sauce, salsa)

TIP
To lower salt intake, rinse canned vegetables.

CANNOT BUY:
- Pickled or creamed vegetables (including corn)
- Baked beans, pork and beans
- Soups
- Ketchup, relishes, olives
- Products with added fats, oils, sugars, meats, syrups, condiments
- Mature legumes such as black beans, garbanzo beans and kidney beans, may not be purchased with a WIC Vegetable and Fruit check; you may use your WIC check that says “Beans, Peas, Lentils” to purchase these types of foods.
VEGETABLES & FRUITS
GOOD SOURCE OF VITAMINS, MINERALS AND FIBER

CANNED FRUITS

- Any brand packed in water or juice
- Any variety of fruit, fruit mixture
- Any size/container/package type (except single-serving pouches)
- Fruit must be the first ingredient
- Applesauce—“no sugar added” or “unsweetened” varieties only

CANNOT BUY:

- Cranberry sauce, pie filling
- Any syrup (heavy, light, “naturally light”, extra light, etc.)
- Added sugars
- Added salt, fat, oils
- Single-serving pouches
CEREALS
GOOD SOURCE OF IRON, B VITAMINS, AND OTHER NUTRIENTS

All cereals are ‘whole grain’ unless marked with the symbol: *

☐ Purchase 12-ounce boxes or larger

CANNOT BUY:

- Organic cereal
- Boxes with single-serving packets

TIP

To increase fiber intake, choose whole grain cereal.

COLD CEREAL NATIONAL BRANDS

General Mills:
- Cheerios (regular only)
- Total Whole Grain
- Corn Chex
- Rice Chex
- Wheat Chex
- Dora the Explorer

Kellogg’s:
- Corn Flakes* (regular only)
- Frosted Mini-Wheat’s Original (Little Bites)

Kemach:
- Corn Flakes*
- Toasted Oats
- Wheat Flakes
CEREALS
GOOD SOURCE OF IRON, B VITAMINS, AND OTHER NUTRIENTS

Malt-O-Meal:
- Mini Spooners (Frosted, Strawberry Cream, Blueberry Cream)
- Oat Blenders*

Post:
- Grape Nuts (regular only)
- Grape Nuts Flakes
- Honey Bunches of Oats with Vanilla Bunches

Ralston:
- Corn Flakes*

Sunbelt:
- Simple Granola

Taanug:
- Corn Flakes*
- Toasted Oats

The Many Ways to Buy 36 Ounces of Cereal

Mix & Match

TIP

12 oz. + 12 oz. + 12 oz. = 36 oz.
12 oz. + 24 oz. = 36 oz.
18 oz. + 18 oz. = 36 oz.
20.4 oz. + 15.6 oz. = 36 oz.
All cereals are ‘whole grain’ unless marked with the symbol: *

**COLD CEREAL STORE BRANDS**

Any store brand can be purchased for the following kinds of cereals:

- **Corn Flakes** - Plain
- **Multigrain Flakes** with **Oat Clusters** (with or without almonds)
- **Also called:** Honey Crunchin’ Oats, Honey & Oats, Honey Oat Clusters, Honey Oats & Flakes, Krispy Honey-Oats, Oats & More, Oats & Honey
- **Oat O’s** - Plain. Also called: Toasted Oats, Tasteeos, Oats & O’s
- **Oat Squares** - Plain. Also called: Crisp Oat Squares, Crunchy Oat Squares, Oat Crisps
- **Shredded Wheat** - Plain or Frosted
- **Wheat Flakes** - Plain

‘Any store brand’ includes store names AND these brands of cold cereal:
CEREALS
GOOD SOURCE OF IRON, B VITAMINS, AND OTHER NUTRIENTS

CAN BUY

HOT CEREALS

Cream of Wheat Whole Grain
(2 1/2 minute)

Instant Maple Oatmeal
Vermont Style Maple Oatmeal

Instant Oats with Iron
WHOLE GRAIN – BREADS
GOOD SOURCE OF FIBER AND B VITAMINS

CAN BUY

BREADS
16 OUNCE PACKAGES

TIP

1 POUND (1 LB.) IS THE SAME AS 16 OUNCES (16 OZ.)
Bread sizes are usually marked at the bottom front of bread package.

- Flax & Grain Bread
- Franczoz Health Bread
  100% Whole Wheat
- Franczoz Health Bread
  Germinated Whole Wheat
- Multigrain Bread
- Wheat Wholegrain Bread
- 100% Whole Wheat
- 100% Multigrain Bread (All Natural)

- 100% Wheat Bread with Flax
- 100% Whole Wheat
- Westphalian Style Pumpernickel
- Danish Style Pumpernickel
- European Style Whole Grain
- Cocktail Whole Grain
- Cocktail Rye
- Cocktail Pumpernickel
- 100% Rye Rye-Ola Flax
- 100% Rye Rye-Ola Pumpernickel
- 100% Rye Rye-Ola Black Rye
- 100% Rye Rye-Ola Sunflower Bread

- Whole Wheat bread
- Whole Wheat rolls
WHOLE GRAIN – BREADS
GOOD SOURCE OF FIBER AND B VITAMINS

**CAN BUY**

**BREADS**
16 OUNCE PACKAGES

All of these brands offer **100% Whole Wheat** bread that is NYS WIC approved!

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Brand</th>
<th>Brand</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>America’s Choice</td>
<td>Best Yet</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Bimbo</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Central Market</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Gourmet</td>
<td>Hannaford</td>
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<td></td>
<td>Hausswald’s</td>
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<tr>
<td>Holsum</td>
<td>Pas Yisroel</td>
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<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Penn Street</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Roman Meal</td>
<td>Sara Lee</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Rubsclarger</td>
<td>Schwebel’s</td>
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<tr>
<td>ShopRite</td>
<td>Super Bread</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Windmill Farms</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Zomicks</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Must be:
- Stone Ground Hamotzie, or Mezonos
- Hamotzie, Mezonos, or Rolls
WHOLE GRAIN – TORTILLAS
GOOD SOURCE OF FIBER AND B VITAMINS

CAN BUY

TORTILLAS
16 OUNCE PACKAGES

- White Corn Tortillas
- Yellow Corn Tortillas

- White Corn Tortillas

- Corn Tortillas

- Whole Wheat (Flour Gordita Whole Wheat) Tortillas

- Soft White Corn Tortillas
- 100% Whole Wheat Flour Tortillas

- 100% Whole Wheat Tortillas

- White Corn Tortillas

- White Corn Tortillas

- White Corn Tortillas

- Whole Wheat Tortillas

- Corn Tortillas
- 100% Whole Wheat Fajita Flour
- 100% Whole Wheat Soft Taco Flour
WHOLE GRAIN – TORTILLAS
GOOD SOURCE OF FIBER AND B VITAMINS

CAN BUY

TORTILLAS
16 OUNCE PACKAGES

- 100% Whole Wheat with Honey Tortillas
- 100% Whole Wheat Flour Tortillas
- Corn All Natural Tortillas
- Whole Wheat Tortillas
- Whole Wheat Flour Tortillas
- White Corn Tortillas (Shelf Stable & Dairy)
  - Whole Wheat Flour Tortillas
- 100% Whole Wheat Flour Tortillas
- Whole Wheat Tortillas
- Whole Wheat Tortillas

- 30 -
WHOLE GRAIN – BROWN RICE
GOOD SOURCE OF FIBER AND B VITAMINS

BROWN RICE
14-16 OUNCE OR 28-32 OUNCE PACKAGES

• Plain brown rice in boxes or bags
• May be instant, quick, or regular cooking

CANNOT BUY:
• Added ingredients such as fats, oils, salt, or sugars

WHOLE GRAIN – PASTA
GOOD SOURCE OF FIBER AND B VITAMINS

WHOLE WHEAT PASTA
16 OUNCE PACKAGE ONLY

• Whole wheat pasta in any style or shape
• Made from whole wheat or whole wheat durum flour
• Organic is allowed

CANNOT BUY:
• Added ingredients such as fats, oils, salt, or sugars
Deciding to breastfeed is important. Breastfeeding protects you and your baby from disease and illness, and creates a special bond that lasts a lifetime. Your baby needs only breast milk for the first 6 months of life. Starting at 6 months, your baby begins to eat solid foods and continues breastfeeding for as long as you both want.

**WIC provides:**

- breastfeeding experts in every WIC local agency
- peer counselors who offer mom to mom support
- a larger food package benefit for breastfeeding mothers
- a larger food package benefit for breastfed babies, starting at 6 months old
- breast pumps for moms who need them
- a community of breastfeeding support

INFANT FOODS
GOOD SOURCE OF IRON, ZINC AND VITAMINS

INFANT FORMULA
Your WIC check lists the brand, size, and form (powder, concentrate, or ready to use) that you must buy.

TIP
PREPARING FORMULA (Powder & Concentrate)
• Follow the directions on the formula container for mixing
• Store prepared formula in the back of the refrigerator (the coldest area)
• NEVER save and reheat an old bottle that your baby did not finish

INFANT CEREAL
8 & 16 OUNCE CONTAINER
Gerber Cereal for Baby

Allowed Varieties:
• Oatmeal
• Rice
• Whole Wheat
• Multigrain

CANNOT BUY:
Organic, extra ingredients such as DHA, fruit, formula, or added protein
INFANT FOODS
GOOD SOURCE OF IRON, ZINC AND VITAMINS

MEATS 2.5 OUNCE CONTAINERS

BEECH-NUT or GERBER:
Any meat with broth or gravy

TIP

FEEDING YOUR BABY

• Make sure your baby is sitting up while eating. High chairs are best.
• Never leave your baby alone while eating.
• Quietly talk to and encourage your baby while eating. Make eye contact.

KOSHER BABY FOOD MEATS:

If printed on your WIC check (or if the store does not carry Beech-Nut or Gerber)

FIRST CHOICE: Chicken with Gravy, Turkey with Gravy

VEGETABLES AND FRUITS 4 OUNCE CONTAINERS

BEECH-NUT OR GERBER:
Any single fruit or vegetable
Any combination of different vegetables and fruits
Two-packs of baby food counts as two containers.

CANNOT BUY:
Organic, pouches, mixtures including non-fruit or non-vegetable ingredients such as meat, yogurt, rice, noodles
SHOPPING Q&A

Q. What if I do not want all of the foods on a check?
A. If you do not expect to use all of the foods, please ask a WIC nutritionist to change your food package.

Q. Can I use coupons with WIC checks at the grocery store or pharmacy?
A. Yes! You may also use a store’s savings card with your WIC checks.

Q. If the store is out of an item, can I get a rain check?
A. No! Stores may not give you a rain check for WIC foods. If a store doesn’t have all the WIC foods listed on your check, ask the store manager if the foods are in stock. You may have to go to another store if all foods are not available.

Q. If my checks expire can they be replaced?
A. No! Make sure you use your WIC checks within the valid dates allowed. After they expire, they cannot be re-issued.

Q. What if I’m asked to sign the WIC check before the transaction is complete?
A. Don’t! Checks should not be signed/dated until the cashier writes the total purchase price in the “Pay Exactly” box.

SHOPPING CHECKLIST

Before you shop make sure you have:
- Your WIC ID card
- This WIC Foods Guide
- Your UNSIGNED WIC checks with valid dates

While Shopping:
- Look carefully at what is listed on the check.
- Use this WIC Foods Guide to help you select WIC approved foods listed on your check.
- Your WIC check will tell you the size and how many of each product you can get.

Before Checkout:
- Gather all the foods listed on each check.

At the Register:
- Do not use self-checkout, express, or cash only lanes.
- Place your WIC items on the checkout counter grouped together by check.
- Place the matching UNSIGNED WIC check on top of each group of these items.
- Tell the cashier you will be using your WIC checks.
- The cashier will write the total cost of your food in the PAY EXACTLY box of the check. The cashier will pass the check back to you to sign and date.
What to Bring to Your WIC Appointment

• Proof of identity for each person applying.
• Proof of where you live. The proof must show your actual street address, not a post office box.
• Proof of income for each household member who works. Documentation must be for the last 30 days.
• Proof of your participation in Medicaid, SNAP/Food Stamps or Temporary Assistance to Needy Families (TANF), if using these programs.
• Immunization records for children.
• Confirmation of pregnancy – a statement from your health care provider with your baby’s due date.
• Any WIC medical forms given to you by your health care provider.

TIP

How do I get my child to eat more vegetables and fruits?

1. Make it fun:
   Offer colorful foods, or arrange foods in patterns on the plate.

2. Get them involved:
   Shop with your child and have them choose a new fruit or veggie. Cook together and let them help with preparation.

3. Provide easy access:
   Cut up some fruits and veggies, and keep it in a covered bowl in the fridge. Your child can easily grab a healthy snack when hunger strikes.
USDA Nondiscrimination Statement

In accordance with Federal civil rights law and U.S. Department of Agriculture (USDA) civil rights regulations and policies, the USDA, its Agencies, offices, and employees, and institutions participating in or administering USDA programs are prohibited from discriminating based on race, color, national origin, sex, disability, age, or reprisal or retaliation for prior civil rights activity in any program or activity conducted or funded by USDA.

Persons with disabilities who require alternative means of communication for program information (e.g. Braille, large print, audiotape, American Sign Language, etc.), should contact the Agency (State or local) where they applied for benefits. Individuals who are deaf, hard of hearing or have speech disabilities may contact USDA through the Federal Relay Service at (800) 877-8339. Additionally, program information may be made available in languages other than English.

To file a program complaint of discrimination, complete the USDA Program Discrimination Complaint Form, (AD-3027) found online at: http://www.ascr.usda.gov/complaint_filing_cust.html, and at any USDA office, or write a letter addressed to USDA and provide in the letter all of the information requested in the form. To request a copy of the complaint form, call (866) 632-9992. Submit your completed form or letter to USDA by:

(1) mail: U.S. Department of Agriculture
Office of the Assistant Secretary for Civil Rights
1400 Independence Avenue, SW
Washington, D.C. 20250-9410;

(2) fax: (202) 690-7442; or

(3) email: program.intake@usda.gov.

This institution is an equal opportunity provider.

For other complaints contact:

(1) mail: WIC Program Director
NYSDOH, Riverview Center Room 650,
150 Broadway, Albany, NY 12204; or

(2) phone: The Growing up Healthy Hotline at 1-800-522-5006; or

(3) email: NYSWIC@HEALTH.NY.GOV

Participants who make false or misleading statements or withhold information on purpose to get WIC benefits, who participate in more than one WIC program, who sell or give away WIC foods or formula, or who sell or give away WIC checks may have to pay the State back for the benefits received improperly and may be legally prosecuted by New York State or federal officials.

WHAT CAN YOU DO IF YOU SUSPECT FRAUD?

Call the Toll Free Hotline

1-877-282-6657

or email

foodfraud@health.ny.gov

You may report your concerns anonymously.
PARTICIPANT RESPONSIBILITIES

Participants must:

• provide WIC staff with true and accurate information for determining eligibility, to the best of their knowledge

• agree to allow WIC Program staff to check that the information provided is correct by contacting employers or other sources

• notify the WIC office if any information provided to WIC changes

• only participate in one WIC Program

• not sell or give away WIC food, formula or WIC checks
Tell a friend or relative about WIC!

An electronic version of this guide is available in 21 languages and can be downloaded from www.health.ny.gov/wic

For more information about WIC:

Call 1-800-522-5006

Email nyswic@health.ny.gov

Visit us on the web at www.health.ny.gov/wic www.breastfeedingpartners.org

or contact your local WIC office.