

## DEPARTMENT OF HEALTH SERVICES

714/744 P STREET

BOX 942732

SACRAMENTO, CA 94234-7320



October 30, 1990

TO: All County Welfare Directors  
All County Administrative Officers

Letter No.: 90-94

SUBJECT: INFORMING ALL MEDI-CAL APPLICANTS ABOUT THE SPECIAL SUPPLEMENTAL  
FOOD PROGRAM FOR WOMEN, INFANTS AND CHILDREN (WIC)

The purpose of this letter is to inform you of the requirements of Section 6406 of the Omnibus Budget Reconciliation Act of 1989. This section requires the Department of Health Services (DHS) to inform Medi-Cal applicants about the Special Supplemental Food Program for WIC. Specifically, it requires DHS to: a) notify in a timely manner all individuals in the State who are determined to be eligible for medical assistance and who are pregnant, breastfeeding or postpartum women and children under the age of five, of the availability of benefits furnished by WIC; b) refer any such individual to the State agency responsible for administering such program; and c) verbally explain WIC benefits to all women and children found to be eligible for WIC who are unable to read.

In meeting these requirements, we are instructing counties to give a copy of the WIC handout (copy enclosed) to all new Medi-Cal applicants at the time of their face-to-face interview and verbally explain WIC benefits to those individuals who are unable to read. We feel this meets the intent of the WIC requirement. Please start this activity no later than March 1, 1991. For ease of administration, we are requesting that it be given to all applicants.

In addition, DHS developed a WIC stuffer (copy enclosed) which will be mailed to all existing Medi-Cal eligible individuals on an annual basis. This year's stuffer will be mailed out with the November 1990 Medi-Cal cards. Subsequent years' stuffers will be mailed out each November.

Counties will be able to order a supply of the WIC handout from the DHS warehouse beginning November 15, 1990. (Please feel free to distribute the WIC handout prior to the March 1, 1991 effective date if you so desire).

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All County Administrative Officers  
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Remember, the DHS Warehouse has moved and is now located at:

Department of Health Services  
1037 North Market Boulevard  
Suite 9  
Sacramento, CA 95834

The WIC program indicated to us that they will notify the project directors of their 81 local health care agencies about the WIC handout and the annual stuffer.

We appreciate your continued efforts in the administration of the Medi-Cal Program. If you have any questions, please contact RaNae Dunne at (916) 324-4955/ATSS 454-4955.

Sincerely,

ORIGINAL SIGNED BY  
ANGELINE MRVA for

Frank S. Martucci, Chief  
Medi-Cal Eligibility Branch

Enclosures

cc: Medi-Cal Liaisons  
Medi-Cal Program Consultants



"We get great food with  
our WIC coupons!"

The WIC Program is a special supplemental food program for pregnant and breastfeeding women, infants, and young children.

The WIC Program provides coupons for food, as well as nutrition education classes and nutrition counseling.

To qualify for the WIC Program, you must have a medical/nutritional need and be low income.

For more information, call your local health department; look under "WIC" in the phone book.

Standards for participation in the program are the same for everyone regardless of race, religion, national origin, political beliefs, sex, age, or handicaps.

"¡Nosotros conseguimos muy  
buenos alimentos con nuestros  
cupones del WIC!"

El Programa WIC es un programa especial de alimentos suplementarios para mujeres embarazadas y las que están dando el pecho, bebés y niños.

El Programa WIC proporciona cupones para alimentos, así como clases educativas y consejos sobre la nutrición.

Para calificarse para participar en el Programa WIC, Ud. debe tener una necesidad de ayuda médica/nutricional y ser de bajo ingreso.

Para más información, llame a su departamento local de salud; busque bajo "WIC" en el directorio telefónico.

Los requisitos para participar en el programa son los mismos para todos sin tener en cuenta la raza, religión, país de origen, creencias políticas, sexo, edad o impedimento.



**WOMEN, INFANTS &  
CHILDREN SUPPLEMENTAL  
FOOD PROGRAM**

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Standards for participation in the Program are the same for everyone regardless of race, religion, national origin, political beliefs, sex, age or handicaps.

**PROGRAMA DE ALIMENTOS  
SUPLEMENTARIOS PARA  
MUJERES, BEBES Y NIÑOS**

El Programa WIC es un programa especial de alimentos suplementarios para mujeres embarazadas, mujeres que están amamantando, bebés y niños pequeños.

El Programa WIC provee cupones para alimentos, así como educación y orientación sobre la nutrición.

Para ser elegible para el Programa WIC, debe tener una necesidad médica/alimenticia y ser de ingresos bajos.

Para más información, llame a su departamento de salud local o busque bajo "WIC" en la guía telefónica.

Los requisitos para participar en el programa son los mismos para todos sin considerar la raza, religión, origen nacional, creencias políticas, sexo, edad, o impedimentos.