

# When to Test Hemoglobin or Receive Blood Work

Post Public Health Emergency – 90 days before or after the certification

	WIC Hemoglobin Requirement	When to perform the test or receive the value	Notes
<b>Infants 0-5 months</b>	Not required		
<b>Infants 6-12 months</b>	One test	Test during any appointment between 6 and 12 months old  Note: CDC recommends testing infants 9 – 12 months	If the infant to child subsequent certification occurs before the first birthday, staff can use this blood test to meet the requirement of the 6-12 month test.
<b>Children 1 – 5 years</b>	One test each year	Test 6 months after the infant test, if possible.  When the previous value was low, staff must do follow up blood tests every 6 months until the value returns to the normal range.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Staff can't use blood tests performed before the infant turns one, to meet requirement for 1-2 year old test.</li> <li>• If the infant to child subsequent certification occurs after the infant turns one, the blood test completed at this appointment counts as the 1 to 2 year old test.</li> </ul>
<b>Pregnant participants</b>	One test during pregnancy	At the initial certification and PE complete assessment	
<b>Breastfeeding and Postpartum participants</b>	One test after the end of the pregnancy	4-6 weeks after the end of the pregnancy  At the initial breastfeeding or postpartum certification	<p>When the certification happens prior to 4 weeks after delivery, staff schedule a follow up appointment to complete hemoglobin testing.</p> <p>Breastfeeding participants who are 6-12 months postpartum don't need another blood test if they had a test after the birth of their infant.</p>
<b>Note:</b> Reasons non-invasive testing (Masimo Pronto) isn't used: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Infants and children under 2 years of age</li> <li>• Children with very small fingers</li> <li>• Children unable to sit still during test</li> <li>• Participants with dark nail polish or acrylic nails (may cause errors)</li> </ul>			

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