



WIC Vendor eBulletin July 2025

Welcome to the Washington State Department of Health WIC Vendor e-Bulletin. Please share this with all staff involved in WIC. *READ, INITIAL, and place in WIC Training binder.*

You can find a copy of this document and back issues of e-Bulletins on our DOH WIC website: http://www.doh.wa.gov/YouandYourFamily/WIC/WICVendors.

Contact us at <u>WICRetailManagement@doh.wa.gov</u> or 1-800-841-1410 Ext. 2 if you have questions or need assistance.

Click here for a printer friendly e-Bulletin. It's located near the bottom of the web page. You can also subscribe to receive quarterly eBulletin newsletters. <u>Information for WIC Vendors | Washington State</u>

<u>Department of Health</u>

POS Changes for Stand Beside Devices



The Vendor Management Team is currently working with our vendor partners to improve the process for using the VeriFone VX520 Stand Beside device for taking WIC transactions. FIS will be reaching out to all Washington stores that are using this device to complete a software upgrade. This will allow canned fruits and vegetables to be scanned, and we'll be able to see accurate report data for all fruit and vegetable transactions.

FIS will be providing more details, along with the complete steps for testing via email prior to completing the upgrade in the near future. After the upgrade is completed, they will test the device remotely via phone call to ensure everything is working properly.

If you have any questions or issues, please contact FIS or email us at WICRetailManagement@doh.wa.gov.

Approved Product List (APL) and PLU Updates

All fresh produce, including herbs, are WIC approved. This includes packaged or pre-cut without added dips, sauces, seasonings, or other mix-in ingredients.

This time of year, many stores add new or seasonal produce items and PLU (Price Look-Up) codes to their inventory. It's important to ensure that each new PLU is correctly mapped in your point-of-sale (POS) system and appears in the WIC Authorized Product List (APL).

When the APL isn't up to date:

- Eligible produce may not scan correctly at checkout
- WIC shoppers could be denied benefits for items they're allowed to purchase
- These errors can result in frustration for both cashiers and participants, impacting the shopper experience and store's revenue.

Updating your APL helps ensure a smooth shopping experience for WIC participants and reinforces your store's commitment in community support.

Change of Ownership/Contact Information

WIC authorized vendors play a critical role in providing healthy food and essential formula to families across Washington State. It is essential to keep us up to date on any ownership or contact information changes.

Accurate contact information ensures you receive important communications including:

- Updates on WIC policies, approved foods, and requirements
- Notices of training opportunities and program reminders
- · Alerts about compliance requirements and audits
- Time-sensitive information during emergencies, system outages, or WIC approved recalls

Vendors must promptly notify us whenever there is a change to:

- Store ownership or management
- · Mailing address or physical location
- phone numbers or email addresses

You may declare any changes in writing to WICRetailManagement@doh.wa.gov.

Welcome Newly WIC Authorized Grocery Stores



We are pleased to welcome the following store(s) as new WIC approved vendors!

WinCo Foods #174 in Centralia, Lewis County

Changes to Juice in Minimum Inventory Requirements (MIR)



The juice requirements for **women and children have now been combined** into one category as simply "juice" on the Minimum Inventory Requirements. The updated document can be found here. Here are the updated requirements:

- Juice type: 64 oz plastic bottles of 100% fruit or vegetable juice
- Minimum required: 6 bottles total
- Varieties: At least 3 different varieties

Other sizes or types of containers (canned or frozen) don't meet this requirement. Some participants may buy 46 oz shelf-stable juice/11.5-12 oz frozen juice as a benefit until October 2025. After October 2025, only the 64 oz shelf-stable juice will be WIC approved.

2025 New Food Rule Resources

Due to a variety of food changes in 2025, the below resources can help guide you through these changes as they occur. If your store uses the WIC shelf tags to identify approved WIC foods on your shelves, please make updates to those as needed. It's important to ensure your POS provider updates the APL on an on-going basis.

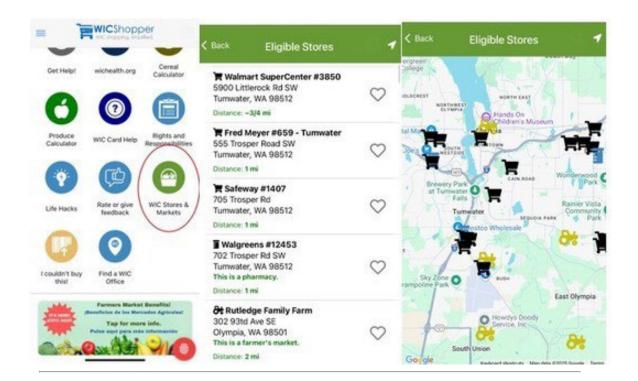
If funding is available, new Shopping Guides may be printed and delivered in October 2025 to reflect all updated foods.

- WIC Food Rule Training: WIC Food Rule Training YouTube
- Download the updated Washington WIC Shopping Guide (PDF): WIC Washington Shopping Guide
- The 2025 WA WIC Shopping Guide Insert can be found here: WIC Program Forms and Materials | Washington State Department of Health (961-1314 WIC Shopping Guide Insert). This can be paired with the 2023 printed Shopping Guide as needed.
- Tips for buying WIC Breakfast Cereal: Tips for Buying WIC Breakfast Cereal
- Tips for using your Whole Grain Benefit: Tips for Using Your Whole Grain Benefit
- Get the WICShopper App: Get the WICShopper App | Washington State Department of Health
- Food Rule Frequently Asked Questions: Food Rule Frequently Asked Questions

WICShopper App: Finding Stores Nearby

Did You Know?

The **WICShopper App** helps participants **find WIC-approved stores nearby** using their phone's location! This feature shows stores in either a **list or map view**, making it easier for WIC families to find you — especially if they're new to the area or traveling.



Vendor Interactive Training Schedule 2025



All WIC authorized stores must attend an interactive training within the current contract period, which ends on September 30, 2026. We have created a schedule of upcoming **online and in-person interactive trainings** this year to help you accomplish this goal.

391 out of **804** Washington stores still need to attend a WIC Vendor Interactive training for this contract period. Although a few trainings MAY be scheduled for 2026, we encourage stores to fulfill this training requirement in 2025.

Sign up for an **English Online or In-Person** training by registering at: https://doh.wa.gov/you-and-your-family/wic-vendors/training.

2025 English On-Line Interactive Vendor Training Schedule:

| Date | Time | |
|-------------------|-------------------|--|
| August 20, 2025 | 9:00 - 10:30 a.m. | |
| September 3, 2025 | 2:00 - 3:30 p.m. | |
| October 15, 2025 | 9:00 - 10:30 a.m. | |
| November 5, 2025 | 2:00 - 3:30 p.m. | |
| December 17, 2025 | 9:00 - 10:30 a.m. | |

2025 English In-Person Interactive Vendor Training Schedule:

| Date / Times | Location |
|-------------------|----------|
| None at this time | N/A |

Sign up for a **Spanish Online** training by registering at: https://doh.wa.gov/es/you-and-your-family-wic-wic-vendors/informacion-de-capacitacion-para-proveedores-de-wic.

2025 Spanish Online Interactive Vendor Training Schedule:

| Date | Time |
|-----------------|------------------|
| August 26, 2025 | 1:00 - 2:30 p.m. |

Vendor Supplies



2024 Vendor Training Guides are now available, along with WIC shelf tags, WIC Shopping Guides in 33 languages, WIC Accepted Here window clings, and other supplies at no cost to WIC stores.

To request WIC Vendor supplies, submit a Vendor Supply Order Form on the WIC Vendor Training Information page or by scanning the QR code to the left. Provide complete and accurate contact information to receive requested supplies promptly.

Another option is to request these same supplies directly from MyPrint at WIC Vendors or by scanning the QR code on the right.

Stores may also send an email to WICRetailManagement@doh.wa.gov.



We are here for you!

Washington State WIC is grateful to you for your dedication to providing nutritious foods for program participants and continuing to support the WIC program.

CONTACT US

Washington State Department of Health Office of Nutrition Services, WIC Vendor Management (800) 841-1410 Ext. 2

WICRetailManagement@doh.wa.gov https://www.doh.wa.gov/YouandYourFamily/WIC/WICVendors

WIC Foods: WaWICFoods@doh.wa.gov

Complaints: www.doh.wa.gov/youandyourfamily/WIC/makeacomplaint

For all POS related issues contact your POS Provider













To request this document in another format, call 1-800-525-0127. Deaf or hard of hearing customers, please call 711 (Washington Relay) or email doh.information@doh.wa.gov

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