



Comparing APLs to APLs: Oregon's Approved Product List

National WIC Association

Technology and Program Integrity Conference

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Oregon WIC EBT (eWIC) Basics

- Online
- Processor is J.P. Morgan
- QC contractor is Maximus
- Pilot January 2014
- 110,000 participants
- 553 grocery and pharmacy vendors
- 478 farmers authorized for CVB

Help from Other State Agencies

- Received APLs from TX, Chickasaw, and KY
- Started with Kentucky APL
- Created an Access database
- Filtered out regional foods

Vendor Assistance

- Received lists from distributors, grocery stores, and pharmacies
- Reviewed lists for approved items
- Needed to decipher some product descriptions
- Needed to convert different UPC formats

Scanning Equipment

- Motorola MC5590 Scanner
- PTS TracerPlus Software
 - Sold Separately
- Used software to create form for scanning and data entry
- Loaded updated UPCs before each scanning session



Scanning Process

- Scan UPC
- Data entry fields collected:
 - Short description
 - Long description
 - Unit of Measure
 - Quantity
 - Oregon WIC approved checkbox
 - Scan date stamp
- Items already in database automatically populate data entry form

Scanning Highlights

- Started scanning in March 2011
- APL workgroup
- 1-2 people, 1 hour per store
- 9,000 items and growing

Import Process

- Cradle for scanner
- Software uploads data to Access
- Edit and add cat/subcat codes
- Converted to Oregon WIC conventions for product descriptions and UPC format

Scanning Tips

- Scanning staff must know the authorized food list
- Brrrr-ing gloves for scanning refrigerated and frozen foods!
- Work in teams of two or more for large stores

APL Maintenance

- Vendor Advisory Council
- Monthly vendor eWIC newsletter
- Oregon WIC website and APL form
- Nutritionists' local agency reviews
- Vendor team's store monitoring visits

Cross-Team Involvement

- Food Review – requests UPCs from food manufacturers
- Formula Workgroup – requests UPCs from formula manufacturers
- Food Court – makes decisions on which foods to add to the APL

Lessons Learned

- Use another state's APL (or NUPC) to get started
- Use multiple sources of input, including vendors
- Start working on the APL sooner than later
- Create an APL team to discuss issues
- Decide if you will use the generic PLU only
- Like laundry and dishes, the APL never seems to be complete!

Next Steps for Oregon WIC

- Complete the APL development in the MIS for eWIC implementation
- Continue to request and collect UPCs from vendors and distributors
- Scan stores regionally prior to pilot and rollout
- Share Oregon's APL and lessons learned with other state agencies

Questions?

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