



STATE OF WASHINGTON
DEPARTMENT OF HEALTH
PREVENTION AND COMMUNITY HEALTH
OFFICE OF NUTRITION SERVICES
WIC NUTRITION PROGRAM
POST OFFICE BOX 47886
OLYMPIA, WASHINGTON 98504-7886

March 25, 2020

TO: Washington WIC Authorized Vendors

FROM: WIC Vendor Management Team

Attention WA WIC Vendors,

We have been reaching out to our WIC vendors to identify any supply chain issues or inventory shortages of WIC approved formula and foods. While many larger chain stores have reported stocking issues due to increased customer demand, smaller stores are reporting challenges with order fulfillment from their wholesale distributors or distribution centers.

In an effort to improve availability of ALL WIC foods for program participants, and the general public, we are asking WIC vendors to impose purchase limits on high-demand WIC foods. In particular, this request is for WIC approved infant formula and dairy products, which continue to be in high-demand and impacted by scarcity across our state. While purchase limits present a hardship to those looking to stock up on items, this will help to ensure product availability for all during these extraordinary times.

While not always feasible, allowing WIC participants to purchase WIC foods without limits is the preferred approach and will help to ensure participant's access to these critical foods. If you have the ability to further support WIC customers by holding aside specific WIC products in high-demand, this would be beneficial to WIC participants during this time.

We appreciate you keeping us informed and contact us if you have any questions. If you are not the correct person to be receiving this, please forward this message to the proper contact within your organization. Contact us at 1-800-841-1410 (option 2) if you have any questions for need clarification on this request.

Thank you,

WIC Vendor Management