New Information - Increase in the Value of Some Vegetables & Fruits Checks

On January 1, 2010, WIC local agencies will begin to issue checks for “Up to $10.00” worth of vegetables and/or fruits to most women participants instead of the $8.00 checks. So, for about a three-month period, you will see $8.00 and $10.00 checks. Children will continue to receive $6.00 checks and a small number of women will receive $15.00 checks.

This change does not affect any of the current redemption procedures for WIC Vegetables and Fruits checks.

Reminder - Stocking Soy Beverages and Whole Grain Tortillas

We recently informed you (please see Vendor Bulletin 2009 - #11 “Changes to NYS WIC Acceptable Foods”) that NYS WIC will begin issuing checks for whole grain tortillas and soy beverages as of January 1, 2010. As a reminder, there is no minimum stock requirement for soy beverages, and the minimum stock requirement for whole grain tortillas can be met by stocking either whole grain tortillas or brown rice. However, to serve WIC customers who may wish to purchase these items from your store we strongly recommend that you work with your distributors to begin stocking NYS WIC-approved whole grain tortillas and soy beverages as of January 1, 2010.

The list of approved soy beverages and whole grain tortillas was provided to you with Vendor Bulletin 2009 - #11; please contact your Vendor Management Agency (VMA) if you need another copy of this list.

PLEASE SEE REVERSE SIDE OF THIS BULLETIN.
Both “WIC Soy Beverage” and “WIC Tortillas” will be included on checks that contain many other foods, such as cereal, peanut butter, cheese, eggs, juice and bread. **Remember, if you do not have any of the WIC-approved soy beverages or whole grain tortillas in stock, participants will need to go to another store, not just for soy beverage and whole grain tortillas, but for all the other foods on their WIC checks.**

Please note that if participants have problems redeeming their checks for soy beverages or whole grain tortillas, minimum stock requirements will be established for these foods.

**New Information - Soy Beverages on WIC Checks**

The approved WIC soy beverages are packaged in either 32-ounce (quart) or 64-ounce (half gallon) containers. The checks will be written in **quart** amounts. Please note that WIC participants may use soy beverage checks to purchase quart-sized containers (32 ounces) of approved soy beverage, or they may purchase a half-gallon container (64 ounces) of approved soy beverage for every two (2) quarts printed on their check. Here are some examples:

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>NYS WIC Checks for:</th>
<th>May be used to purchase:</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>2 Quarts WIC Soy Beverage</td>
<td>(two) one-quart containers OR (one) half-gallon container</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>3 Quarts WIC Soy Beverage</td>
<td>(three) one-quart containers OR (one) half-gallon container + (one) one-quart container</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>4 Quarts WIC Soy Beverage</td>
<td>(four) one-quart containers OR (one) half-gallon container + (two) one-quart containers OR (two) half-gallon containers</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Some participants will be receiving more than 4 Quarts. This information applies to all quantities of quarts listed on checks for WIC Soy Beverage.

Please ensure that your cashiers are aware of the wording on WIC checks and the allowable purchases.

**New Information - January 2010 Acceptable Foods Card Supplement**

Enclosed is a new NYS WIC Acceptable Foods Card supplement, dated January 2010, that lists soy beverages, whole grain tortillas, brand-specific tofu products, 48-ounce juices and whole grain bread products. **This replaces the current supplement dated October 2009.** Participants will begin shopping with this new supplement in January 2010. As of January 1, 2010, the current listings of NYS WIC foods will be found in the following three (3) separate documents:

- NYS WIC Acceptable Foods Card - January 2009
- NYS WIC Acceptable Foods List for Vegetables and Fruit Checks - January 2009
- NYS WIC Acceptable Foods Card Supplement - January 2010

Please make sure that all your cashiers have copies of all three documents.

If you have questions about this information, or need additional food lists, please contact your vendor management agency.

Enclosure