



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*

November 1, 2014

TO: ALL GROCERY VENDORS APPLYING FOR 2015-2018 WIC AUTHORIZATION

RE: SUMMARY OF CHANGES TO WASHINGTON WIC PROGRAM RULE

Dear Vendor:

New program rules take effect November 2014 for the 2015-2018 WIC authorized vendor contract. These new rules change the way the department determines a vendor's compliance with the Vendor Selection Criteria. The 2015-2018 contract period does not begin until April 1, 2015, however, vendors may apply for authorization beginning November 17, 2014. Please carefully review the new program rule completely before you apply for the new contract period. The Vendor Selection Criteria, Section WAC 246-790-077, and the complete set of application requirements are listed in the revised WAC. Read the entire WAC carefully before you apply for vendor authorization.

Here is a sample of some of the changes to the Vendor Selection Criteria. **Note: These requirements are different than the Minimum Inventory Requirements, which a vendor must also comply with at the time of application.**

Among other requirements listed in WAC 246-790, vendors must stock at least:

- 20 varieties of canned foods, excluding infant formula, fish and juices;
- 10 varieties of frozen foods, excluding frozen juice, meat, seafood, poultry, desserts, snacks or novelties;
- 10 varieties of refrigerated dairy products;
- 6 varieties (all unbreaded) of frozen meat, unfrozen meat, frozen seafood, unfrozen seafood, frozen poultry, or unfrozen poultry including at least two varieties of meat and at least two varieties of poultry (excluding precooked and deli style products);

- 20 total varieties of fresh fruits or fresh vegetables, including at least five varieties of fruits and at least five varieties of vegetables. **The store must have a minimum of five linear feet of refrigerated display space for its produce;**
- 10 varieties of bread products such as bread, rolls, bagels, and tortillas. Breads and tortillas exclude muffins, pastries, cookies, cakes, crackers, or other snack foods;
- 10 varieties of grains, pasta, or beans such as oatmeal, rice, bulgur, pasta, beans, peas, or lentils (excluding bread, canned products or other breakfast cereals);
- 10 varieties of baby products such as diapers, baby wipes, baby shampoo, baby lotion, or baby bottles (excluding infant formula);
- 10 varieties of household cleaning or laundry products used for cleaning kitchens, dishes, bathrooms, windows, floors, furniture, clothes, or fabrics;
- 20 varieties of health care products such as pain relievers, cold/cough/allergy products, digestive aids, dental care products, feminine hygiene products, or toilet paper.

Vendors must read WAC 246-790 prior to applying for authorization. Vendors must affirm on their application materials that they comply with all Vendor Selection Criteria and other program rules at the time of application. The complete program rule, contract body and Minimum Inventory Requirements for WIC approved foods can be found on our WIC Retailer Website, located at the following address:

<http://www.doh.wa.gov/YouandYourFamily/WIC/WICRetailers/Authorization>

If an applicant vendor fails to comply with each requirement listed in WAC 246-790, the department will decline the application.

If you have any questions or would like additional information, please contact the department at 1-800-841-1410.