### Issuing Food Benefits in the Month an Infant Turns 1 Year of Age

| Eligibility ends date | • Infants certified less than 7 months of age: eligibility ends the last day of the month they turn 1 year of age.  
• Infants certified at 7 months of age or older: eligibility ends the last day of the month of a 6-month period. |
|-----------------------|-------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|
| WIC foods             | • Participants receive infant foods when the First Date to Spend is prior to the first birthday.  
• Participants receive foods for children when the First Date to Spend is on or after the first birthday. |
| Providing child food benefits instead of infant food benefits | If the Parent Guardian would prefer child food benefits:  
• Staff can issue the rest of the family’s benefits on the regular day and wait to issue the child’s benefits on or after the 1st birthday.  
  o **Note**: the child’s benefits will be prorated if issued more than 7 days after the Family Issuance Day.  
• If infant food benefits were issued before the first birthday, and the Parent Guardian requests child foods after the 1st birthday:  
  o **If no benefits were redeemed for the infant or any member of the family**, void the infant/family food benefits (**Food Instrument List**) and re-issue with child food benefits (**Issue Food Instruments**).  
  o If the family redeemed any food benefits, staff can’t replace infant foods and formula with child foods. |

### Issuing Food Benefits in the Month a Child Turns 5 Years of Age

| Eligibility ends date | • Cascades eligibility ends the day before the child turns 5 years of age.  
• Client Services (CIMS) eligibility ends the last day of the month the child turns 5 years of age. |
|-----------------------|-------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|
| WIC foods             | **Participants certified in Cascades**  
• Staff can issue food benefits when the First Date to Spend is on or before the eligibility ends date (prior to the 5th birthday).  
• Staff can’t issue food benefits with a First Date to Spend after the eligibility ends date (on or after the 5th birthday).  
• The participant has the full amount of time to redeem the food benefits based on the family’s issuance cycle.  
**Participants whose final certification occurred in Client Services (CIMS)**  
• Children who had their final certification completed in CIMS migrate to Cascades with the CIMS-calculated eligibility ends date, which is the last day of the month they turn 5 years old.  
• Staff can issue food benefits with a First Date to Spend on or before the eligibility ends date, the last day of the month (usually after the 5th birthday).  
• The participant has the full amount of time to redeem the food benefits based on the family’s issuance cycle. |
| Replacing food benefits | • Staff can update the food prescription and replace current benefits within the First and Last Date to Spend, even if the participant is expired. |
This institution is an equal opportunity provider. Washington State WIC Nutrition Program doesn’t discriminate.

For persons with disabilities, this document is available on request in other formats. To submit a request, please call 1-800-841-1410 (TDD/TTY 1-800-833-6388).

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