



August 19, 2020

Vendor News Flash

September Extension - Temporary Substitutions to WIC Approved Foods

To support our WIC community, Texas WIC is again extending the temporary lifting of restrictions for some food categories. The flexibilities have now been extended through **September 30, 2020**. These flexibilities should be utilized only when prescribed food items are unavailable. The temporary WIC food substitutions are listed below.

At this time, we anticipate all waivers and flexibilities will end on **September 30, 2020**; however, should something change, we will notify vendors as quickly as possible.

Temporary Flexibilities Extended Through September 30, 2020

Fluid Milk. Participants issued fat-free, 1/2% or 1% milks are able to also purchase 2% milk and low-fat/non-fat options, including calcium-fortified, high-protein, organic, docosahexaenoic acid (DHA) and omega-3 milks. Flavored milk is not allowed.

Participants issued whole milk are able to also purchase whole milk options that include calcium-fortified, high-protein, organic, DHA and omega-3 milks. Flavored milk is not allowed.

Whole-Wheat Bread. Participants are allowed to substitute whole-wheat bread in packages up to 24 ounces when 16-ounce packages are unavailable.

Eggs. Participants are allowed to substitute an 18-count carton of eggs when a 12-count carton is unavailable. Texas WIC has also temporarily lifted the restrictions on brown, pasture-raised, free-range and organic eggs.



Whole-Wheat Pasta. Participants are allowed to substitute any brand of 16-ounce whole-wheat pasta.

Brown Rice. Participants are allowed to substitute any brand of 16-ounce brown rice.

Vendors should download the Authorized Product List (APL) to ensure your systems will download the most up-to-date APL correctly. If you experience a UPC scanning issue, please email the label — displaying the brand name, size and UPC bar code — to WICUPC@hhsc.state.tx.us for addition to the APL.

Vendor Management and Operations will monitor and provide updates as necessary. Should you have any questions about this Vendor News Flash, please contact the Vendor Outreach Branch at WICVendorRelations@hhsc.state.tx.us or 800-252-9629.