

Hi All,  
Here is another item to share.

Kathleen

Attached is an update memo regarding use of the new Food Lists. New comments in the memo include:

- The current policy on who an alternate can be is in the memo; you may want to review this.
- The transitional period when both methods of using photo ID and the food list at the store will end March 1<sup>st</sup>, 2013. After March 1<sup>st</sup> only food lists with signatures will be acceptable when using warrants at the store.
- Please include the new food list with mailed FI as soon as your clinic receives them.
- Black or dark blue ball point pens work best on the food list for signatures (less smearing and smudging).
- To take off an alternate signature, simply draw a line through the name.
- The back of the food list contains an area for writing in future appointments. If your agency schedules appointments, take advantage of this area to remind clients of their appointment and what to bring with them.

**From:** Wayne, Kathleen A (HSS)

**Sent:** Friday, November 23, 2012 1:44 PM

**To:** HSS DPA WIC Coordinators; Bliss, Taryn E (HSS Sponsored)

**Cc:** HSS DPA WIC Juneau; HSS DPA WIC Anchorage; Olejasz, Aimee M (HSS); 'Danielle Rybicki'

**Subject:** WIC Update November 21 2012

Hi All,

I've attached a couple articles from the Journal of the Academy of Nutrition and Dietetics. One study looks at the cost of face-to-face vs telephone counseling in rural settings. The other study looks at the behavior of introducing complementary foods to infants of women who enter into pregnancy overweight/obese.

Take care,

Kathleen

1. TCC has a check printer that they are not using and can't store. If anyone is interested in their clinic having another check printer, please contact TCC at 451-6682, extension 3668 or [taryn.bliss@tanachiefs.org](mailto:taryn.bliss@tanachiefs.org).
2. Breastfeeding Six Steps---Here are two resources from the National WIC Association to help implement strategies in your WIC agencies to promote, support and protect breastfeeding. These are critical to increasing exclusivity and breastfeeding rates in Alaska. Contact Dana Kent if you have any questions. Thanks for all you do to inspire, prepare and empower the families you serve each day. Dana 465-5322
3. Vendor Update:
  - USDA requires vendors to be reauthorized at least every three years. The Vendor Unit has reauthorized all but a handful of vendors for the three years ending on September

30, 2015. Three vendors did not reapply for authorization due to a lack of WIC business, and one because of business issues. We expect to have 180 vendors statewide when the authorizations have been completed. We will send applications to all new vendors who have expressed interest in becoming authorized later this month.

- The Vendor Unit distributed the Fall 2012 Price Sheets to vendors on November 1, with a deadline of December 4 to complete them. We are encouraging vendors to complete them electronically, if possible.
- We expect to receive advance copies of the new Food List/Participant ID Folder on Friday, November 2, and will send one to every clinic so you can become familiar with it.

4. If you are taking MMolly Pessel's course in January, here is some information for you.

**NOTICE OF CHANGE OF VENUE:**

**The 5-Day Course will be held in the meeting space function area on the 3rd floor of the Millennium Alaskan Hotel Anchorage. The course will run from Monday, January 28 through Friday, February 1, 2013, 8:00am to 5:00pm all five days.**

Attached is the revised pdf version of the conference brochure that includes the details of this venue change. Be sure to contact Bridget McCleskey at the contact information below for any questions. Bridget McCleskey, Conference Coordinator, [confcoor@gci.net](mailto:confcoor@gci.net), 907-694-5321

5. ***SPIRIT UPDATE*** The State WIC office staff are getting excited about SPIRIT implementation. Although the proposed timeline has temporarily slowed down, we hope to give you additional details in the coming weeks on how the timeline is progressing. Be assured, as soon as we know something definite; you will be the first to know! That being said, here are some SPIRIT-ed "tips" you.

- Ability to search for clients at the local clinic will be "state-wide". For example if you can't find a client you will be able to do a state-wide search and determine what agency and clinic they are in.
- SPIRIT allows you to set an alert that pops up when you open the client folder. For example a mother doesn't want you to leave messages for her on the phone. You can type in an alert that automatically shows up with this information once the folder is opened.
- You can change the amount of cheese and milk for a client simply by substituting the appropriate equivalents in SPIRIT yourself instead of looking for a different food package.



- SPIRIT Policy Transition Update---see attachment

SPIRIT-ed "tips" for you. These are few of the features you can expect to see in our new system.

- Expanded ability to make and track notes about nutrition, breastfeeding, or other topics.
- Centralized database will make it easier to avoid the creation of duplicate records.

6. New Food List Questions---below are some questions we received regarding client's identification and the new food list:

1. With the changes in ID requirements for cashing the warrants, are there any changes in ID requirements for WIC? No.

2. Can a client (or alternate) use their WIC Food List as an ID for a WIC certification or for secondary education? No

If so, will this be added to the list of acceptable ID in Spirit? No. Please refer to LA Memo 13-03. The new food list is designed to make things easier for clients at the store, but a picture ID will still be required at the WIC office.

3. One of our big concerns is lost Food Lists - anyone could sign a lost Food List & use the warrants. How do we handle lost Food Lists, and reissuing a lost Food List?

- If an alternate comes to the secondary education appointment and requests a new Food List, what do we do? We won't have a list of the alternates as this will now be the responsibility of the client. As stated in LA Memo 13-03, LAs can keep track of an alternate in the AKWIC system. The SPIRIT system will allow two authorized users to be listed, other than the client. LA Memo 13-03 also states it's the client's job to make sure that the designated alternate has the food list. The food lists are expensive to produce, and LAs will have them in limited quantities; it's important to encourage clients to hang onto them so they will not need to be replaced frequently.

4. - If the alternate is the other parent, can we issue a new Food List (some parents have less than 50% custody)? Yes.