

REDEEMING WIC CHECKS



WIC FOOD INSTRUMENTS (CHECKS)

- **Checks are negotiable and must be handled with care.**
- **Checks are the responsibility of the participant, guardian or proxy.**
- **Checks should be stored safely at home in the folder.**
- **Checks can only be replaced in accordance with policies.**
- **Checks and cash benefit vouchers can only be redeemed at WIC authorized retailers.**

WIC FOODS

- **Only WIC approved foods may be purchased.**
- **The quantity, size and brands are shown on the check and on the “Missouri WIC Approved Food List”.**



CHECK DATES

- **Use your check on or after the “first date to use”.**
- **Use your check before the “last date to use”.**
- **Return any unused checks to the agency.**



SHOPPING

- **Use your check and approved food list as a shopping list.**
- **Purchase only the food on your check.**
- **Purchase less food if you like, but no exchanges.**
- **Non-national advertised brands must be purchased when specified on the check.**



CASH VALUE BENEFIT VOUCHERS

- **When choosing fruits and vegetables priced by the pound, use the scale in the produce area and round up to the nearest pound or half pound.**
- **Review your approved food list for allowable fruits and vegetables.**
- **Add up fruit and vegetable choices.**
- **If the total is more than the amount on the WIC check, you can:**
 - **Pay the difference using cash, check, credit/debit card or SNAP EBT card**
 - **Pay the difference by using multiple fruit and vegetable checks together. (Some stores may only be able to allow one check for one purchase.)**

CHECKING OUT

- **Present your folder and check to the cashier before the items are scanned or rung up.**
- **Separate the foods for each check as they are separate sales.**
- **Separate WIC foods from other items you wish to purchase.**



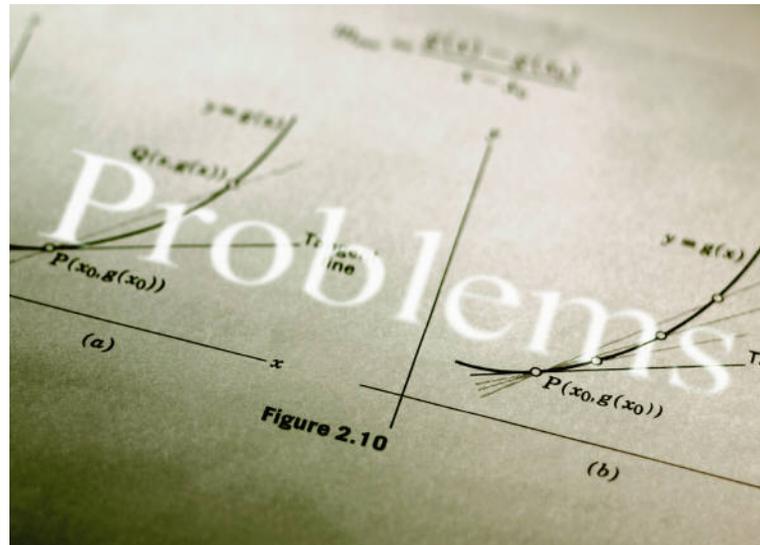
SIGNING THE CHECK

- Do not sign the check until the items have been rung up and the cashier writes the correct amount and total on the check.
- Verify that the cashier writes the correct date and total before signing the check.
- Sign the check using blue or black ink only.



PROBLEMS?

Let staff at the WIC agency know if you have a problem using a check or with a WIC authorized retailer.



DO NOT:

- **Alter the check. If altered, you must take the check back to the agency.**
- **Use before the “first date to use” or after the “last date to use”.**
- **Send anyone to the store with the check except a proxy.**
- **Accept or request change back from the check.**
- **Pay money for WIC food if it exceeds the limit on the check.**

DO NOT:

- **Accept rain checks. You must take your check and go to another store, return to the store when items are available, or substitute another WIC approved brand/flavor when possible.**
- **In the case of infant formula, the cashier can complete a Partial Infant Formula Redemption form to take back to the agency to get another check or to get additional formula.**
- **Request cash, refund or exchange foods purchased with your check.**
- **Exchange checks for money, credit or other food.**

REDEEMING CHECKS

Failure to comply with correct redemption of checks may result in a sanction from the WIC program.