

Nutrition/Health Volume  
Certification Section

Nutrition Risk Criteria (2.03500)

ER# 2.03500 – New Policy

Authority 2017 7CFR 246.7; WIC PM 2011-5; Transmittal of New and Revised WIC Nutrition Risk Criteria 5-2011, 6-2012, 11-2013, 5-2015, 6-2016

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Revised

**POLICY:** The Local Agency (LA) certifying staff will assess for and assign applicable risk factors to WIC participants following guidance and procedures as provided in the USDA Regulations, USDA Justification and Missouri WIC Risk Factor Definition Table.

**PROCEDURES:**

**A. Obtaining and Documenting Data**

1. The certifying staff determines any and all nutrition risk criteria present through anthropometrics, biochemical determination, and nutritional and health assessment interviews during the certification process. Refer to [ER#2.02800](#).
2. Certifying staff will obtain weight, length/height, and hemoglobin with adherence to procedures in the Health and Nutrition Assessment Handbook ([HNAH](#)).
3. Certifying staff will document weight, length/height and biochemical data in MOWINS. MOWINS will automatically plot anthropometrics on the appropriate growth chart or Prenatal Weight Gain Chart.
4. Participants may self-report conditions that have been medically diagnosed by a physician or health care provider, unless otherwise stated in the specific definition of the nutrition risk criteria. See the appropriate [USDA Definition and USDA Justification](#) documents. Certifying staff will document all data/information obtained in a General Note, SOAP Note, or Nutrition Assessment tab. Refer to [ER#2.02800](#) (D.2.).
5. Refer to [ER# 2.02900](#) for specific information regarding care plans, completion of SOAP notes and high-risk risk factors.

**B. Assessing and Assigning Risk Factors**

1. The certifying staff will assess for and assign all applicable risk factors.
  - a. The definition of the nutrition risk criteria must be met as listed in the appropriate USDA Regulations and USDA Justification documents.
  - b. Refer to the [Risk Factor Definitions Tables](#) for specific information regarding system assignment of risk factors, flagging of a risk factor as high risk and requirement of a high risk care plan.
2. The documented risk condition must apply to a participant's current or most recent nutrition risk condition, versus any history of the condition, unless

otherwise stated in the specific definition of the nutrition risk criteria.

3. Priority is determined for each status based on risk-criteria for the participant and auto-assigned by MOWINS. Refer to [ER# 2.03200](#) and [Risk Factor Summary & Priority Sheet](#).
- C. Providing Appropriate Counseling (See [Counseling Guides](#) for suggested counseling). Refer to the [Nutrition Training Manual](#) and [Decision Trees](#) for more information.
1. Counseling and education shall be provided by the CPA/Nutritionist.
  2. Document counseling/education contact in MOWINS.
- D. Providing Referrals.
- Provide appropriate referral information and document in MOWINS. Refer to [ER#1.01800](#).