REDEEMING WIC CHECKS

Missouri WIC
Eat Healthy. Stay Well.
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”.

![WIC Authorized Logo]
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 make 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.

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