



VDH VIRGINIA
DEPARTMENT
OF HEALTH

WIC Vendor Quarterly Newsletter

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Megan's Message

Happy Spring from the Virginia WIC Program!

Virginia WIC continues to navigate through the COVID-19 pandemic and the Abbott formula recall. Last week, the federal Public Health Emergency Declaration was renewed. With this renewal, WIC waivers will be in place until October 12, 2022. These waivers will allow for clinic services to remain in a remote capacity and continue with other program flexibilities. Additionally, the temporary increase in the cash value benefit (CVB) has been extended through the end of September 2022. WIC participants will continue to receive the increased CVB amounts of \$24 for children, \$43 for pregnant and postpartum women and \$47 for breastfeeding women each month.

The Abbott formula recall has been a challenging situation for everyone involved to include our WIC participants, staff and the authorized vendors. Your efforts have been extremely helpful in ensuring our participants and their families have access to the supplemental foods. Virginia WIC will be offering substitute formulas through the end of May 2022. For the most current allowable substitutions, please visit our webpage at virginiawic.com. Thank you for your continued support of the Virginia WIC Program especially during these demanding times.

Thanks,

Megan Nason, MS, RD

Virginia WIC Program Manager

Division of Community Nutrition

Megan.Nason@vdh.virginia.gov

Article From Alex

A BIG THANK YOU to our Hardworking WIC Retailers!

There are over 810 authorized WIC retailers in Virginia. You are incredible people who are working tirelessly to meet the needs of all customers. Refer to our website www.VirginiaWICretailers.com for updated information on formula substitutions. More than ever, our retailers play a vital role in meeting the nutritional needs of our participants. The Virginia WIC Program extends our most heartfelt gratitude for your hard work in keeping us fed. Please know that the State WIC office and the local clinics have made adjustments to the way we do business and we are continuously enrolling new participants and serving our retailers every day. We are working remotely and the best way to contact the Vendor Team is by email, WIC_retailer@vdh.virginia.gov or call 804-864-7800.

Thanks,

Alex Acharya,

Virginia WIC Vendor Manager

Division of Community Nutrition

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Infant Formula Recall

According to the manufacturer (Abbott Laboratories), some infant formula was voluntarily removed from the shelf. Refer to this article from [Abbott Laboratories](#) for more details.

On Friday, February 18, 2022 an email from State WIC office (Alex Acharya) with subject WIC FORMULA RECALL ALERT was sent to all retailers with additional instructions on next steps and procedures regarding this recall. [Click here](#) to get a copy of this email for more details.

As WIC continues to work through the Abbott formula recall situation, it has become apparent that many of the substitute products are still difficult for WIC participants to locate. We have just added 62 new formula Universal Product Codes (UPC) in the [Approved Product List \(APL\)](#). This will allow for additional can size options for participants.

Please ensure your APL is updated on a daily basis to allow these substitutions. We are working on graphics to explain the substitutions that I will share when it is finished. If you could also please remind your staff to always SCAN WIC items in question and let the POS system tell you if it is approved or not.

NOTE: The formula substitutions will not be listed on the WIC benefits, but will scan properly.

Infant Formula Substitutions (updated 4/18/22)

[Substitution List- WIC Website](#)

Category A1:E25	Sub- category	Item Subbed	Formula Substitute Added	UPC
21	082	Similac Advance Powder	Enfamil Infant 12.5 oz.	300871365421
21	082		Gerber Good Start Gentle 12.7 oz.	050000216673
21	082		Parent's choice infant	078742016610

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			12.5 oz.	
21	082		Parent's choice advantage 12.4 oz.	078742058573
21	082		Similac 360 Total Care powder 20.6 oz.	070074680644
21	082		Similac Advance powder - 20.6 oz.	070074680859
21	082		Similac Pro Advance powder 20.6 oz.	070074680897
21	082		Similac Advance powder - 23.2 oz.	070074533605
21	082		Similac Pro Advance powder - 23.2 oz.	070074660806
21	082		Similac Advance powder - 30.8 oz.	070074585864
21	082		Enfamil Infant - 21.1 oz.	300875119761
21	082		Enfamil Infant - 29.4 oz.	300875121276
21	034	Similac Sensitive Powder	Parent's Choice Sensitive 12.0 oz.	078742032542
			Enfamil Neuro Pro Sensitive 19.5 oz. powder	300875124529
			Similac 360 Total Care Sensitive 20.1 oz. powder	070074680712
			Similac Pro Sensitive 20.1 oz. powder	070074680910
			Similac Pro Sensitive powder - 22.5 oz.	070074660820
			Similac Sensitive 20.1 oz. powder	070074680835
			Always My Baby Sensitivity Infant powder - 22.5 oz.	688267184055
			Parent's Choice Sensitivity Infant pwr - 22.5 oz.	078742067322
			Tippy Toes Sensitivity Infant powder - 22.5 oz.	036800419049
			Comforts Sensitivity - 22.5 oz.	041260381188
			Signature Care Infant Formula Sensitivity- 22.5 oz.	079893002873
			Similac Sensitive	070074508184

			powder - 22.5 oz.		
			Enfamil Neuro Pro		
			Sensitive powder - 29.4 oz.	300875124543	
			Similac Sensitive powder - 29.8 oz.	070074629520	
21	120	Similac Pro Advance powder 30.8 oz.	Similac Pro Advance 30.8 oz. powder	070074664385	
21	124	Similac Total Care 360 powder 30.8 oz.	Similac Total Care 360 30.8 oz. powder	070074681177	
21	121	Similac Pro Sensitive powder 29.8 oz.	Similac Pro Sensitive 29.8 oz. powder	070074664408	
21	122	Similac Pro Total Comfort powder 29.8 oz.	Similac Pro Total Comfort 29.8 oz. powder	070074669380	
21	125	Similac Total Care 360 Sensitive 30.2 oz. powder	Similac Total Care 360 Sensitive 30.2 oz. powder	070074681238	
21	088	Similac Total Comfort Powder	Enfamil Gentlease 12.4 oz.	300875100691	
21	088		Enfamil Reguline 12.4 oz.	300875111321	
21	088		Gerber Good Start SoothePro 12.4 oz.	050000624003	
21	088		Parent's Choice Gentle 12.0 oz.	078742012650	
			Similac Pro Total Comfort powder - 20.1 oz.	070074681085	
			Similac Pro Total Comfort powder - 22.5 oz.	070074669403	
			Enfamil Gentlease - 19.9 oz.	300875119785	
			Enfamil Gentlease -27.7 oz.	300875121252	
			Enfamil Reguline - 19.5 oz.	300875111574	
			Gerber Good Start SoothePro - 19.4 oz.	050000487226	
			Gerber Good Start SoothePro - 30.6 oz.	050000494989	
			Always My Baby	688267184048	

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			Gentle 21.5 oz. powder	
			Parent's Choice Gentle 21.5 oz. powder	078742067223
			Parent's Choice Complete Comfort 22.5 oz. powder	681131350198
			Signature Care Gentle 21.5 oz. powder	079893002866
31	085	Similac Spit-up Powder	Enfamil A.R. 12.9 oz. powder	300870201423
			Enfamil A.R. 30.4 oz. powder	300875126424
			Parent's Choice Added Rice Starch 21.5 oz. powder	681131241328
			Parent's Choice Added Rice Starch 32.2 oz. powder	681131130776
			Enfamil A.R. 19.5 oz. powder	300870201652
31	012	Store Brand Hypoallergenic Infant Formula 12.6 oz. powder	Parent's Choice Hypoallergenic powder 12.6 oz.	681131222518
31	012		Comforts Hypoallergenic Infant Formula Pwr 12.6 oz.	041260385728
31	012		Tippy Toes Hypoallergenic Infant Formula Pwr 12.6 oz.	036800441392
			Parent's Choice Hypoallergenic - 19.8 oz.	681131346795
			Parent's Choice Hypoallergenic - 27.8 oz.	681131406734
			Signature Care Hypoallergenic - 19.8 oz.	021130166169
31	004	Enfamil Nutramigen LGG powder	Enfamil Nutramigen LGG 19.8 oz. powder	300871239456
			Enfamil Nutramigen LGG 27.8 oz. powder	300875122228

31	809	Enfamil Nutramigen Toddler oz. powder	12.6	Enfamil Nutramigen Toddler 12.6 oz. powder	300875107348
31	083	Gerber Extensive HA powder	14.1 oz.	Gerber Extensive HA 14.1 oz. powder	050000598526
31	069	PurAmino Infant 14.1 oz. powder		PurAmino Infant 14.1 oz. powder	300875104804
31	034	Similac Alimentum RTF		Similac Alimentum 8- pack 2 fl. oz. RTF	070074676388
31	081	Similac NeoSure powder		Similac NeoSure 22.8 oz. powder	070074669243
41	183	Similac NeoSure 32 fl oz. RTF		Similac NeoSure 32 fl. oz. RTF	070074574561
				Similac NeoSure 8- pack 2 fl. oz. RTF	070074114842

SCAN All Products!

The WIC Approved Product List (APL) has been updated to allow the purchases of the substitute formulas.

Please **SCAN** all products to allow the system to process the transaction.

Please remind cashiers to **SCAN FIRST!** The APL file has many changes.



Best Practices=WIC Success!



WIC Inventory Shortage Issues

Retailers have faced many challenges keeping their stores stocked with essential products due to panic buying and freight truck delays. The Virginia WIC program has temporarily added a few new items to make the shopping experience better for the participants and our retailers. Please refer to our website www.VirginiaWICretailers.com or this [link](#) to see the temporary items that are available. If you are having difficulty in stocking the WIC approved items please contact [Vendor Team](#) for assistance.

Egg Waiver Extended

The Public Health Emergency Declaration was extended again until Wednesday, October 12, 2022. As a result WIC will continue to allow medium, large, extra-large and jumbo sizes of white or brown, regular or organic eggs until further notice.

BUY:

- Medium, Large, Extra-Large or Jumbo size eggs
- White or Brown
- Regular or Organic

Don't Buy

- Cage Free
- Free Range
- Fat/Cholesterol altering eggs (Eggland's Best)

Next Retailer Advisory Meeting (RAM)

The RAM is a quarterly conference call with VA WIC staff and WIC retailers to give updates and answer questions. Minutes from previous meetings are available at the top of our Retailer [Resources](#) webpage. If you have a topic that you would like covered please contact us. We welcome your participation.

Next RAM: Thursday, April 21, 2022 at 2:00 pm.
Call 1-866-845-1266 code 76976587

Please consider joining us. Email amy.romero@vdh.virginia.gov if you have questions or want to be added to the distribution list.

Annual Training Edition Coming in June

The annual training for WIC authorized retailers is June 2022 through July 2022. According to the United States Department of Agriculture (USDA) Federal regulation 246.12, each WIC-authorized store has to designate a manager or representative to complete and verify their annual retailer training. Steps for completing annual training are:

1. Retailers will receive the Annual Training Edition 2022 bulletin through email. A copy will also be available at virginiawicretailers.com website.
2. Read the annual training retailer bulletin in its entirety.
3. Acknowledge that you have completed your annual retailer training:
 - For “**individual**” stores (stores without a Certified Trainer) – You will complete an online survey using the store WIC ID number at a designated website provided in the training bulletin. Please be sure to provide an email of the individuals that will be completing the training. Send name and email information to WIC_Retailer@vdh.virginia.gov.
 - For “**corporate**” stores (stores with a Certified Trainer) – Each company will refer to the email with instructions sent to the parent company's primary contact. The state WIC office will provide a list of stores to confirm individual training and return the list no later than the due date.

ASK ALEX

Q. What is the current Food List?

Answer: 2020 Food List

Please note our current edition is 2020. This publication is updated every two years. You will receive communication from our office before a new publication is released.



Q. What WIC literature do I need at the register?

Answer: A WIC Food List 2020 and Infant Formula flyer should be at each eWIC register.

Q. When should I expect an updated 2022 Food List?

Answer: The WIC Food List 2022 will be shipped to each store by late spring or early summer.

Q. Where should you store the WIC Retail Store binder?

Answer: The WIC Retail Store binder should be stored in a central location in the store. It is a great reference for WIC questions. An Agency representative will ask to see it during a monitoring visit.

Q. How do I order WIC supplies?

Answer: [Retailer Supply Request Form](#) or [Web Form](#) or Document downloads can be found on our [WIC Resources website](#).

Q. Where does a WIC retailer locate the most recent information on the infant formula recall?

Answer: Check your email and [VA WIC retailers' website](#) under Notices and Updates section.

Alex Acharya

WIC Vendor Manager

Alex.Acharya@vdh.virginia.gov

We Need Your Feedback!

Please let us know how your WIC transactions are going. For example, have you had foods not go through that you think should be WIC approved? Or any other eWIC issues?

Let us know how it is going by emailing WIC_retailers@vdh.virginia.gov with any item descriptions and UPCs.

Important Links

- [WIC Homepage](#)
- [WIC Retailer Homepage](#)
- [WIC Retailer Resources](#)
- [Infant Formula Recall Substitutes](#)
- [2020 Approved Food Product List](#)
- [Current Approved Product List](#)
- [Vendor Team Directory](#)
- [Commonwealth of Virginia WIC Regulations](#)

- Retailer Incident/Complaint form WIC #387
 - [Instructions](#)
 - [Form](#)
- Retailer Supply Request Form -
 - [Web Form](#)
 - [Paper Form](#)
- UPC Update Form
 - [Instructions](#)
 - [Form](#)
- Non-Discrimination Statement (<https://www.usda.gov/non-discrimination-statement>)

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