PREVIOUS SESSION(S)

Background to the WIC Program
Vendor Selection Criteria
Vendor Application Process
Minimum stock requirements
Approved Product List
Key schedule dates
Application Guidance
Review of Required Documents

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Overview

- Authorization Timeline
- Approved Products List & UPC Management
- Pre-Authorization Monitoring
- Vendor Training
Authorization Timeline

Dates provided are tentative based on known information.
## Key Authorization Activities

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Activity</th>
<th>Date</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Vendor Technology Survey</td>
<td>July 2019&lt;br&gt;December 2019&lt;br&gt;*On-going</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Vendor Advisory Meetings</td>
<td>Monthly</td>
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<tr>
<td>Application Open</td>
<td>October 16, 2019</td>
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<tr>
<td>Last Date to Submit Application</td>
<td><strong>September 30, 2020</strong></td>
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<tr>
<td>Vendor Application Moratorium</td>
<td>October 1, 2020- January 31, 2022</td>
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<tr>
<td>Vendor Monitoring</td>
<td>Started February, 2020</td>
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<tr>
<td>Vendor Trainings</td>
<td>May, 2020</td>
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<tr>
<td>L2 Certification (if any)</td>
<td>June, 2020</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>L3 Certifications</td>
<td>August, 2020</td>
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<tr>
<td>Pilot</td>
<td>Start Date</td>
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<tr>
<td>Pilot 1</td>
<td>October 12, 2020</td>
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<tr>
<td>Pilot 2</td>
<td>October 26, 2020</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Rollout 1</td>
<td>January 19, 2021</td>
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<tr>
<td>Rollout 2</td>
<td>February 8, 2021</td>
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<tr>
<td>Rollout 3</td>
<td>March 1, 2021</td>
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<tr>
<td>Rollout 4</td>
<td>March 22, 2021</td>
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</table>
Approved Product List & UPC Management

Discussion about adding UPC’s
Approved Products List (APL)

• The approved products list is currently awaiting approval from FNS
• Vendors will be able to submit UPC’s they would like added to the list once the official list has been posted
• The APL file will be posted to the agency website upon approval
• Additional UPC’s may be added using the UPC submission form
• No submissions will be reviewed or considered until the final list is approved and posted
UPC Submission Form

- UPCs are approved according to the current food guide
- Remember to provide a copy of the product label.
  - Product name
  - Size
  - Nutrition facts
  - UPC bar code.
- Manufacturers must provide a list of stores where the product is available.
UPC Submission Process

• Vendors may submit a UPC submission form to update or revise a UPC on the existing APL throughout the year.

• Vendors may submit a UPC submission form to add a new product for a category/subcategory that allows *any brand* to the APL throughout the year.

• Vendors may submit a UPC submission form to add a new product for a category/subcategory that is *brand specific* annually during the following period: March to May
  • Starting in 2021

• The vendor will send the UPC submission form and supporting documentation (appropriate images of the label per the instructions on the form) to [eWIC@msdh.ms.gov](mailto:eWIC@msdh.ms.gov)

• The nutrition team will review the documentation and complete the UPC submission form.
Pre-Authorization Monitoring

How has this affected current procedures?
Pre-Authorization Monitoring

• On-site pre-authorization monitoring is currently on hold until June 1, 2020
  • This may be extended to July 1, 2020 depending on State guidance

• We have received a waiver for on-site vendor pre-authorization monitoring through June 30, 2020.

• For vendors authorized without a pre-authorization visit, an on-site routine monitoring visit will be performed at a later date during the on-site minimum stock verification or level certification of the POS system
Vendor Training

How has this affected current procedures?
Vendor Training

• Virtual vendor training took place on May 5th and May 7th

• Virtual vendor training is scheduled for the following:
  Grocery Stores: Tuesday, June 9 2020 at 9:00am CT
                  Thursday, June 11 2020 at 1:00pm CT
  Pharmacies:    Tuesday, June 9 2020 at 1:00pm CT
                  Thursday, June 11 2020 at 9:00am CT

*Applicants applying to become grocery store and pharmacy vendors must attend a vendor training session for each*
Vendor Training cont.

• If you have a completed application, you will receive an invitation to RSVP and join us virtually

• Please note this training may take up to 4 hours to complete and vendors will be required to be present during the entire training
  • Roll is taken at the beginning and end of the training session

• The primary contact or the training representative must be present for your business to receive credit for this training

• Training aides will be posted to the webpage by May 31, 2020
Vendor Questions?
Next session

June 18, 2020 12pm CT

TOPICS
• Vendor Technical Assistance

NOTE: Vendor advisory sessions will be held every third Thursday at 12pm unless otherwise specified.
Where to get more information?

- Visit our website at www.freshnewwic.com
- Email us at vmu@msdh.ms.gov
THANK YOU

MSDH WIC Program