Overview

• Authorization Timeline
• Approved Products List & UPC Management
• Pre-Authorization Monitoring
• Vendor Training
Key Activities 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</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>December 2019</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>*On-going</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Vendor Advisory Meetings</td>
<td>Monthly</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Application Open</td>
<td>October 16, 2019</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Last Date to Submit Application</td>
<td><strong>September 30, 2020</strong></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Vendor Application Moratorium</td>
<td>October 1, 2020- January 31, 2022</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Vendor Monitoring</td>
<td>Started February, 2020</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Restarted June 15, 2020</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Vendor Trainings</td>
<td>Monthly</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>L2 Certification (if any)</td>
<td>July, 2020</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>L3 Certifications</td>
<td>August, 2020</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
Approved Product List & UPC Management

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

• The approved products list is currently awaiting review 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
Pre-Authorization Monitoring

• On-site pre-authorization monitoring restarted June 15, 2020
• We have received a waiver for minimum stock requirements until July 31, 2020.
  • This means you will be able to pass the initial monitoring visit, but will receive a second monitoring visit before eWIC will be accepted to verify minimum stock requirements
Vendor Training

What is happening now
Vendor Training

• On-site vendor training is scheduled for the following:

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Date</th>
<th>Region</th>
<th>Grocer Time</th>
<th>Pharmacy Time</th>
<th>County</th>
<th>Site</th>
<th>Address</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>7/14/20</td>
<td>1</td>
<td>9:00am</td>
<td>1:00pm</td>
<td>Coahoma</td>
<td>MSU Extension</td>
<td>503 East Second Street, Clarksdale, MS 38614</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>7/15/20</td>
<td>2</td>
<td>9:00am</td>
<td>1:00pm</td>
<td>Washington</td>
<td>Washington County Health Department,</td>
<td>1633 Hospital Street, Greenville, MS 38701</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>7/16/20</td>
<td>3</td>
<td>9:00am</td>
<td>1:00pm</td>
<td>Forrest</td>
<td>MSU Extension</td>
<td>952 Sullivan Drive, Hattiesburg, MS 39401</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

*Seating is limited. Attendance is for RSVP only. This information is subject to change based on COVID-19 precautions. All information will be on the webpage at www.freshnewwic.com.
Vendor Training cont.

• If you have a completed application, you will receive an invitation to RSVP
• Please note this training may take up to 3 hours to complete and vendors will be required to be present during the entire training
  • Roll call 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
• If you need to change your training representative, please contact us at vmu@msdh.ms.gov.
• Training aides will be posted to the webpage by June 30, 2020.
Vendor Questions?
Next session

July 23, 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](http://www.freshnewwic.com)
- Email us at [vmu@msdh.ms.gov](mailto:vmu@msdh.ms.gov)

The Mississippi State Department of Health’s WIC Program is transitioning to a “Retail Food Delivery System.” This enables WIC participants to go to a WIC vendor of their choice, shop to obtain WIC supplemental foods, and complete the transaction at the cash register using an eWIC card.

**Vendor Selection Criteria**

Retail grocery stores must meet specific criteria in order to be considered a WIC vendor. Below are the minimum selection criteria:

1. EBT capable.
2. WIC vendors must charge competitive prices.
3. The State Agency (MDH) will consider business integrity of a vendor applicant.
4. An average of $3,000 in WIC benefit redemptions over a period of 6 months shall be required to participate as a WIC vendor.
5. WIC vendors must be in compliance with all federal, state and local licensing and permitting requirements including those of the Mississippi Department of Agriculture and Mississippi State Department of Health.
6. WIC vendors must be Supplemental Nutrition Assistance Program (SNAP) authorized vendors in good standing with USDA.
7. WIC vendors must be open for business year round at least 16 hours per day and 6 days per week.
8. WIC vendors must be a business whose primary purpose is to be a retail grocer. Offset distribution outlets and wholesale fixed establishments are not eligible.
9. WIC vendors must be in a fixed location.
10. WIC vendors must have a minimum of 1,000 square feet of continuous retail space allocated solely for food products.
11. WIC vendors must have a minimum of three (3) operational cash registers.
12. WIC vendors must be able to accept WIC benefits through the use of electronic benefits transfer.