



VB # 7 – May 1, 2015

**NYS WIC PROGRAM
VENDOR BULLETIN
Title: WIC Check Reimbursement**

This is an important notice. Please have it translated.

Este aviso es importante. Haga que lo traduzcan.

Это важное сообщение. Пожалуйста, попросите перевести вам данную информацию

Đây là thông báo quan trọng. Xin vui lòng nhờ người chuyển ngữ tài liệu này cho quý vị.

Ovo je važna obavijest. Molimo da tražite da vam se prevede.

यह एक महत्वपूर्ण सूचना है। कृपया इसे अनुवाद करके रखें।

這是一項重要通告。請予以翻譯。

هذه ملاحظة هامة يرجى ترجمتها

זוהי הודעה חשובה. נא לתרגם אותה.

WIC Check Reimbursement

The NYS WIC Program recently implemented several changes in order to meet new federal requirements and more effectively manage vendor activities. As shared in Vendor Bulletin #3, dated March 6, 2015:

- Effective April 4, 2015, the Maximum Allowable Reimbursement Level (MARL) (aka) Not-To-Exceed Amount (NTE) has been removed from WIC checks, including WIC Vegetable and Fruit Checks.
- WIC checks exceeding the NTE amount will be rejected by the WIC banking contractor. New York State (NYS) will not impose any fees for checks that exceed the NTE amount.

As a result of these changes, some WIC vendors have experienced an increase in the number of WIC checks for exceeding the NTE. Although the NYS WIC Program's banking contractor is not imposing bank fees for rejected checks, we have been made aware of several instances where the vendor's bank of deposit is charging additional fees.

In addition to the guidance regarding negotiating bank fees found in the attached letter from Loretta Santilli, Director of the Division of Nutrition, WIC vendors are encouraged to:

- Negotiate with suppliers or find different suppliers to obtain better wholesale pricing on WIC foods
- Consider reducing profit margins on retail prices for WIC foods
- Keep track of check numbers, check amounts and check types that are problematic and notify the contracting Vendor Management Agency with specific information.

The NYS WIC Program will continue to monitor check rejection rates and will evaluate redemptions by region and check type to address market price fluctuations and ensure that Blind NTEs are set at appropriate levels.

Additionally, the NYS WIC Program will be hosting a WIC Vendor Stakeholder webinar on June 16th, 2015 from 10:30am – 12:00pm. Information on how to register for the call will be provided within the next few weeks.

If you have questions about this information, please contact your Vendor Management Agency.

Thank you for your participation in the NYS WIC Program.