Janet T. Mills Governor

Jeanne M. Lambrew, Ph.D. Commissioner



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April 3, 2020

Subject: Maine WIC Food Package Waivers in Response to COVID-19

Dear Maine WIC Authorized Store:

Maine State WIC Office has approved temporary changes to the food package allowed for purchase in response to the current issue of low stock/increased demand. From the date of this notice until May 31, 2020 the following changes have been approved:

- FLUID MILK: Participants can choose <u>any</u> available fat content (whole, 2%, 1% or skim) when the milk listed on their checks may not be in stock in stores at this time.
- ➤ Per our current Cashier Guide & Approved Food List (effective date June 6, 2016): they are **still** able to choose milk in any combination of container sizes to equal the amount of milk listed on their check
- ➤ <u>Cheese:</u> Participants can choose **one** 12-ounce package of cheese if 8- and 16-ounce packages are not available.
- ➤ Whole Wheat/Whole Grain Bread: Participants can choose authorized whole grains in package sizes up to 24 ounces when 16 ounce size is not available.
- ➤ Eggs: Participants can choose two 6- count or one 18-count egg carton when 12-count cartons are not available. Or, they may choose to purchase a 16-18 oz jar of peanut butter or 16 oz bag of dried beans or four 15-16 oz cans of beans if eggs are not available.

A system override may need to be done for 12 oz cheese, 6 count and 18 count eggs as they are not in the APL

Please contact us at 1-207-287-3991, if you have any questions or concerns.

Sincerely,

Maine CDC, WIC Nutrition Program