



COVID-19: WIC Flexibilities

The U.S. Department of Agriculture (USDA) created a State WIC agency template to allow agencies to request the following WIC flexibilities granted under the Families First Coronavirus Response Act:

- Waive the **physical presence requirements for WIC**. The approval to waive the physical presence requirement includes the ability to defer height and weight measurements and bloodwork requirements necessary to determine nutritional risk for the period the physical presence waiver.
- Waive the **supplemental food substitutions requirements**. The approval to waive the requirement to adhere to the participant's specific supplemental food package includes the ability to substitute unavailable WIC supplemental foods for different foods.
- Waive the **minimum stocking requirements**. The approval to waive the minimum stocking requirements will include a waiver of onsite pre-authorization visits to check minimum stocking requirements.

Take Action

- State agencies need to quickly submit the request for waivers. The State WIC agency template can be found here: <https://frac.org/wp-content/uploads/COVID-19-WIC-State-Agency-Waiver-Request-Print-Response.pdf>.
- Check USDA's list of WIC COVID-19 waivers issued for your state: <https://www.fns.usda.gov/disaster/pandemic/covid-19/cn-waivers-flexibilities>
- Advocates, other partners, and State agency staff can work in partnership to make sure WIC continues to reach and serve families. To learn more, please read FRAC's *Maximizing WIC's Role in Supporting Health, Food Security, and Safety During the COVID 19 Pandemic: Opportunities for Action*.

For updates and additional information on COVID-19, please see [FRAC's website \(https://frac.org/COVID-19-updates\)](https://frac.org/COVID-19-updates).