

## **WIC Dictionary**

Adjunct income eligibility	Automatic income eligibility for WIC based on eligibility or participation in other specified programs. Participants who have adjunct income eligibility must still meet residency and nutrition risk eligibility criteria in order to receive services.
Block grant	A federal grant distributed based on a preestablished formula using population, economic, and other factors. Two examples include the MCH Block Grant and the Preventive Health Services Block Grant.
Caseload	The number of active WIC participants (i.e., the number of participants using their eWIC benefits)
Cash Value Benefit	The Cash Value Benefit (CVB) is a WIC benefit that is specific to only fruits and vegetables.
Category of participation	WIC categories that describe participants who are in specific lifecycle stages. Includes pregnant women (P), breastfeeding women, non-breastfeeding postpartum women, infants, and children.
Cert/ Certification	An appointment where eligibility status is determined.
Client	Individual participating in WIC and receiving program benefits; used interchangeably with participant.
CPCU	Cost Per Case Month. This is the monthly rate of billing to the WIC Program from an eWIC processor based on the number of households served in the billing month.
Community Empowerment Initiative	An Iowa initiative established to create a partnership between communities and state government with the initial emphasis on improving the well being of families with young children.
Dental Home	The source of regular comprehensive oral health care.
Early ACCESS	The name of Iowa's system of early intervention services. This coordinated effort involves the Departments of Public Health, Education, Human Services, and Child Health Specialty Clinics to provide needed services and resources to children from birth to 3 years old who have, or are at high risk for, developmental disability of delay.

Economic unit	A household or family unit composed of a person or group of persons related or non-related, who usually (although not necessarily) live together, and whose production of income and consumption of goods or services are related. Used interchangeably with family and household.
Entitlement	Refers to the funding of programs. An entitlement program will be funded to the extent that it is needed. The program will grow with increased need regardless of other considerations. SNAP, Medicare and Medicaid are examples of entitlement programs. See Discretionary.
eWIC	WIC electronic benefit transfer. Refers to the issuance of WIC benefits on a plastic card.
Family size	See economic unit
FB Issuance	The FB (food benefit) issuance refers to the participant's food benefit issuance cycle.
First Five	Iowa's Healthy Mental Developmental Initiative for children ages 0-5. The initiative is designed to improve well-child care largely through the use of developmental screens that support healthy mental development
Food package	The specific foods prescribed for a WIC participant.
Friday Facts	A weekly electronic newsletter from the Iowa WIC Program. This newsletter addresses policy issues, general information, and items requiring immediate action.
Head Start	A program of the USDA that helps children get ready to start school. Their social and cognitive development are enhanced by providing education, nutrition, health and other services to low-income children and their families.

Health Update

For infants: These appointments are scheduled quarterly and include a brief health assessment and a nutrition education contact. Weight and length measurements are also required during one of these appointments.

For Children: These appointments are scheduled six months after the certification appointment. These appointments will include anthropometric measurements, blood work as required, a brief health update, dietary assessment, immunizations screening follow up as needed and nutrition education.

For breastfeeding mothers: This appointment should be scheduled with her infant's mid-year health update appointment. It includes a brief health assessment and a nutrition education contact.

Note: Health Updates are NOT a certification appointment.

Hematocrit

The volume of packed red blood cells expressed as a percentage of the volume of whole blood in a sample. A screening test for iron-deficiency anemia.

Hemoglobin

A measure of the iron-containing component of red blood cells. A screening test for iron-deficiency anemia.

High priority participant

Refers to WIC participants in Priority Classes I, II, and III. Assignment to these priority classes is based on the presence of health conditions that impact or interfere with nutritional status.

High risk participant

A WIC participant with specified nutrition risk(s) requiring the development of an individual nutrition care plan. These risks indicate a need for clinical nutrition services from a licensed dietitian. Second education contacts must be provided on a one-to-one basis. HR is the flag used in Focus for high risk participant.

Homeless	<p>A woman, infant or child who lacks a fixed and regular night time residence or whose primary night time residence is one of the following:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• A supervised publicly or privately operated shelter (including a welfare hotel, congregate shelter or shelter for victims of domestic violence) designated to provide temporary living accommodations;</li> <li>• An institution that provides a temporary residence for individuals intended to be institutionalized;</li> <li>• A temporary accommodation in the residence of another individual; or</li> <li>• A public or private place not designed for, or ordinarily used as, a regular sleeping accommodation for human beings.</li> </ul>
HOPES	<p>A home visitation program usually provided by local public health agencies for pregnant women, parents of newborns, and other families with children ages 0-5 years. The services provided generally include health and development, school readiness, socialization, parent-child interaction, parenting and family skills.</p>
Household	<p>See economic unit.</p>
I-Smile	<p>A dental home project for children under 12 years of age in Iowa designed to allow a team approach to oral care. The project focuses on prevention and care coordination.</p>
Medicaid Program	<p>A program for low income individuals and families that helps pay for medically necessary care and services; includes medical, dental, eye care, and prescriptions. Pregnant women and infants (under the age 1) with family incomes &lt;375% of federal poverty guidelines are eligible while children 1-18 years with family incomes less than 167% are eligible. Also known as Title XIX.</p>
Medical Documentation	<p>Documentation from a prescribing authority that allows a participant to get approved non-contract infant formulas, medical foods, and supplemental foods for special diets.</p>
Medical Home	<p>The source of regular medical care by a physician.</p>

MIECHV	Maternal, Infant and Early Childhood Home Visiting Program supports pregnant women and families and helps parents of children from birth to age 5 tap the resources and develop the skills they need to raise children who are physically, socially and emotionally healthy and ready to learn.
Migrant farm worker	An individual whose principal employment is in agriculture on a seasonal basis, who has been so employed within the last 24 months, and who establishes, for the purposes of such employment, a temporary abode.
Nest/Stork's Nest	A community-based incentive program for pregnant and parenting families that awards points for attendance and participation in health, parenting & other family support activities and programs. These points can be exchanged for products such as diapers, car seats, high chairs, etc.
Nutrition risk	Conditions which predispose an individual to inadequate nutrition patterns. Includes nutrition-related medical conditions and dietary practices.
Participant	See client.
Participant Centered Education	A comprehensive outcome based model that touches on all aspects of WIC functions and service delivery and shifts the nutrition education into a facilitative, supportive role enhancing the relationship with the participants to effectively influence behavior.
Peer Counseling	Refers to the support that breastfeeding moms receive from breastfeeding peer counselors in WIC agencies that have received a grant to fund the program.
Precertification	Certifying infants and pregnant women using referral data from a hospital, physician's office or public health nursing agency. These clients may receive one month of WIC benefits, then must come to the WIC clinic for another certification appointment in order to continue WIC services.
Presumptive eligibility	Application for Title XIX for pregnant women which assumes that the woman is eligible until application has been received and verified by DHS.

Priority table	A table listing the Priority Classes and corresponding nutrition risk codes for each class.
Proof of income	Written documentation of income. May include a variety of documents, including proof of participation in other programs such as Food Assistance and Medicaid
Provisional Certification	When a participant forgets to bring proof of income OR proof of address a provisional certification allows one month of benefits and an automatic system alert about the need to provide proof of income or proof of address within 30 days to continue receiving services. The CPA or designated support staff must schedule a return appointment in the next 30 days for the applicant to provide the proof.
Proxy	Another individual, designated by the WIC participant, to pick up WIC benefits for the participant.
Residency	Refers to a participant's address. Immigrant or legal statuses are not considered in WIC's definition of residency.
Second ed	A nutrition education contact scheduled during the certification period; may be conducted as a group, online via wichealth.org, or as a one-to-one contact based on nutrition risk and other considerations.
SNAP	Supplemental Nutrition Assistance Program (SNAP) is administered by the USDA Food and Nutrition Service. SNAP was formerly known as the Food Stamps Program. Current SNAP education guidance is to focus on eating fruits and vegetables, low-fat or fat-free milk, whole grains and be physically active each day.
Special purpose vendor	A vendor authorized to sell only formula to WIC participants. This includes contract, non-contract, and special formulas.
Three Step Counseling strategy	Best Start's counseling strategy designed especially for effective breastfeeding promotion. This strategy can be used successfully with other topics, too. The steps include asking open-ended questions, affirming the client's feelings, and providing education.

Value Enhanced Nutrition  
Assessment

Comprehensive nutrition assessment done by the WIC  
competent professional authority during WIC  
appointments.

Vendor

Refers to a grocery store or pharmacy holding a current  
contract with the WIC Program.