

State of California—Health and Human Services Agency California Department of Public Health



GAVIN NEWSOM Governor

## June 6, 2019 VENDOR ALERT 2019 – 03

TO: ALL WIC VENDORS

SUBJECT: CALIFORNIA WIC CARD – WIC CARD PILOT TIMELINE REVISION

- PurposeThe California Department of Public Health/Women, Infants and Children Division<br/>(CDPH/WIC) has made a minor revision to the timeline of the transition from<br/>paper food instruments to the new California WIC Card (WIC Card).
- **Background** This summer, California WIC local agencies began issuing the new California WIC Card to participants in a phased statewide rollout, known as waves. Each wave has a "Go Live" date, which is the first day a WIC local agency begins issuing the WIC Card to participants. In 2018, CDPH/WIC created a WIC Card rollout schedule so WIC local agencies, participants, and authorized vendors are able to view their area's Go Live date in order to plan and prepare for the change.

The WIC Card will only be used to access WIC benefits and is separate from other benefit cards, such as the Golden State Advantage Card used by CalFresh (SNAP). During statewide rollout, some WIC participants will start using the WIC Card soon after their region's Go Live date, while others will continue to use paper food instruments until all of California has transitioned to shopping with the WIC Card.

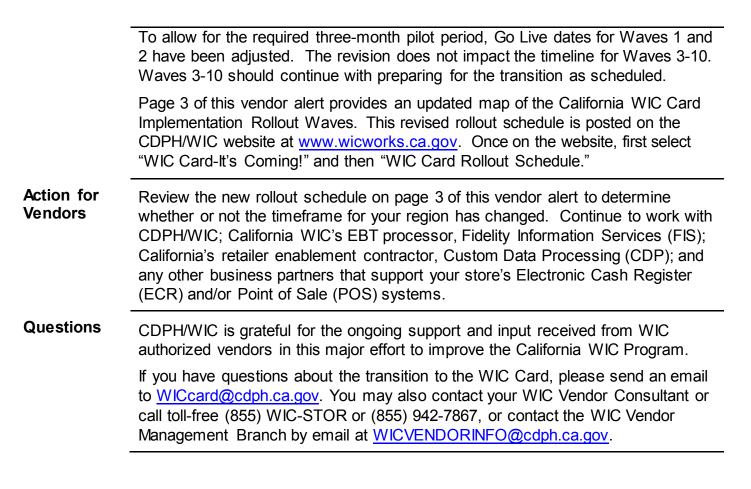
All WIC authorized vendors must continue to accept non-expired WIC paper food instruments until notified otherwise by CDPH/WIC.

Updated WIC Card Rollout Information In order to continue providing the highest quality services to California WIC families, WIC local agency staff, and WIC vendor communities, CDPH/WIC revised the WIC Card transition timeline to begin the pilot in Napa and Solano Counties on June 3, 2019. This change allowed for necessary revisions to the new California WIC management information system to be completed prior to Pilot. The new California WIC App is also now available to improve the WIC Card experience for families.



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Lantrel Stockton, Chief Vendor Management Branch Women, Infants, and Children (WIC) Division



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## **California WIC CARD Implementation Rollout Waves**



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