

May 24, 2021



Veggies and Fruits Increase Provides More Nutritional Access to WIC Families

Contact:

Communications Office
786-336-1276

Port Charlotte, Fla. – On March 12, 2021, the American Rescue Plan Act (ARPA) authorized State WIC Agencies to enhance the WIC benefit for a period of four months, expanding the vegetable and fruit voucher from \$9/month for children and \$11/month for women to \$35 per month, per participant. WIC's vegetable and fruit voucher is known as the Cash Value Benefit (CVB). The CVB is credited with improving the dietary quality of WIC participants and reducing the prevalence of childhood obesity among WIC toddlers.

Florida WIC will be implementing the CVB increase beginning June 1, 2021 until September 30, 2021. All women and children 1 – 4 years old who participate in the WIC Program will receive an increase in their fruits and vegetables cash voucher to \$35 per participant, per month. For example, a pregnant woman and her 2-year-old child will receive a total of \$70 cash voucher to use on fruits and vegetables per month from June – September 2021. Fruits and vegetables can be fresh, frozen or canned. Any brand, variety, size, with no added sugar, syrup, artificial sweeteners, fat, or oil. Organic fruits and vegetables are allowed.

Call our friendly customer service representatives, Monday-Thursday between 8:00am – 4:45 pm or Friday 8:00 am – 11:15am at (941) 624-7200.

For more information on enrollment and eligibility for the WIC Program at the Florida Department of Health in Charlotte County please visit <http://charlotte.floridahealth.gov/programs-and-services/clinical-and-nutrition-services/wic/index.html> or call (941) 624-7200 for WIC appointments.

About the Florida Department of Health

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- (1) mail: U.S. Department of Agriculture
Office of the Assistant Secretary for Civil Rights
1400 Independence Avenue, SW
Washington, D.C. 20250-9410;
- (2) fax: (202) 690-7442; or
- (3) email: program.intake@usda.gov.

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