

PRESS RELEASE



Commonwealth Healthcare Corporation
Commonwealth of the Northern Mariana Islands
1 Lower Navy Hill Road, Navy Hill, Saipan, MP 96950



June 23, 2020
4:30PM ChST

CHCC-PR-20-108

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

Exciting Updates for CNMI WIC Participants

The Commonwealth Healthcare Corporation (CHCC) CNMI Women, Infants and Children (WIC) Program is pleased to announce its new guidelines for **WIC Income Eligibility** and **WIC to GO**, a new shopping platform.

WIC Income Eligibility

The CNMI WIC Program has continued its efforts to ensure food access, breastfeeding support, and reassurance for young families during the COVID-19 pandemic. WIC is available to CNMI's pregnant, breastfeeding, and postpartum women, infants, and children under the age of five who are at nutritional risk and who are at or below 185 percent of the federal poverty thresholds, which is demonstrated below. A pregnant woman is considered two family members.

WIC Income Eligibility Table By Family Size Effective June 22, 2020

Family Members in Household	Yearly Household Income	Monthly Household Income	Twice-Monthly Household Income	Bi-Weekly Household Income	Weekly Household Income
1	\$23,606	\$1,968	\$984	\$908	\$454
2	31,894	2,658	1,329	1,227	614
3	40,182	3,349	1,675	1,546	773
4	48,470	4,040	2,020	1,865	933
5	56,758	4,730	2,365	2,183	1,092
6	65,046	5,421	2,711	2,502	1,251
7	73,334	6,112	3,056	2,821	1,411
8	81,622	6,802	3,401	3,140	1,570
Each Add'l Member Add	+\$8,288	+\$691	+\$346	+\$319	+\$160

Note: All WIC Income Eligibility Guidelines are based on GROSS Income, meaning before taxes or other deductions.

A person or certain family members who participate in other benefits programs, such as the Nutrition Assistance Program (NAP) or Medicaid, automatically meet the income requirement.

Become a WIC Client

Call us at (670) 664-4084 to see if you qualify. In this new normal, we continue to do remote services, so it is important to have a working phone number where we can reach you.

Essential Documents for your Certification

For each person who will be enrolling into the WIC Program, please bring:

- Identification for adults (Driver's License, Photo ID)
- Child's Identification (Immunization Record, Birth Certificate, Crib Card)
- Proof of Income (30 days of recent pay stubs, Medicaid card, NAP card)
- Proof of Address (Mail from CUC, NAP card, map to residence)

WIC to GO

WIC to GO is designed to promote a safe, efficient, and equitable shopping experience during this time of crisis and new normal.

How does WIC to Go Work?

1. Call a participating store to place an order for WIC food benefits as well as other store products (varies per store)
2. Schedule a pick up time that works for you
3. Make a payment using your eWIC card and pick up your groceries at the scheduled time.

Why should I use WIC to Go?

- It cuts your shopping time in half— this helps limit the time you spend in public places, which is so important now
- It's easy and convenient

Where to Shop?

Beginning Mid-July, 2020 *WIC to GO* will be offered at:

- Joeten Kagman (call 256-6442)

By Early Fall:

- HAN NAM supermarket
- Blue Sky supermarket
- San Jose market
- Capitol Hill market
- Joeten Susupe
- Joeten Hafa Adai, Garapan
- Joeten Dandan

Tips for using WIC to Go

- Make a shopping list ahead of time
- Use your WIC app to find what you need

The *WIC to GO* project is part of and made possible through the Catalyzing Retention Efforts in WIC (CREW) grant through the National WIC Association (NWA) by way of the Robert Wood Johnson Foundation (RWJF). The CNMI WIC is one of four awardees out of 37 applicants to receive this grant.

The purpose of the CREW grant is to address the national decline in participation in the Special Supplemental Nutrition Program for Women, Infants, and Children (WIC) that has occurred over the last several years. As a recipient of this grant, the CNMI WIC program is responsible for creating and piloting creative practices that will impact the retention of WIC participants, increase WIC food redemptions, promote nutrition education and health equity in the CNMI community.

Stay informed and up to date on **WIC to Go** launch dates, store contact numbers and more by visiting CNMI WIC's Facebook page at www.facebook.com/cnmichcc, www.facebook.com/cnmi.wicprogram, or Instagram @cnmi.wic.

For general inquiries about the WIC Program or eligibility, please call us at (670) 664-4084. The WIC Clinic is open Monday-Friday from 7:30AM-11:30AM and 12:30PM-4:30PM.

Stay informed and up to date with what is going on at WIC by visiting CNMI WIC's Facebook page at www.facebook.com/cnmichcc, www.facebook.com/cnmi.wicprogram, or Instagram @cnmi.wic.

WIC is an equal opportunity provider. The program is funded by the United States Department of Agriculture (CFDA #10.557, federal award #7NM700NM5).

For more information about CHCC programs, please follow us on Facebook, Instagram, and Twitter at @cnmichcc, check out our website at www.chcc.gov.mp or call us at (670) 234-8950.

This press release may be found online at <http://www.chcc.gov.mp/pressrelease.html>