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DATE: May 27, 2020
TO: WIC Local Agencies
FROM: State WIC Office
SUBJECT: COVID-19 Updates

Federal WIC Funds for WIC Services Only

The State WIC office is aware that Local Agency WIC Staff may be called to assist with non-WIC COVID-19 related response activities within their agencies. These are unusual times and local public health agencies are doing all they can to respond to COVID-19 in their communities. We want to remind WIC Agencies that they are an essential service and responsible for staffing the WIC Program as necessary to meet all federal and state requirements. If WIC staff are reassigned to non-WIC COVID-19 response activities, those activities must be covered with other funds and cannot be billed as WIC Services and paid for with federal WIC grant funds.

Height Weight Hemoglobin Waiver

Physical Presence is waived through June 30, 2020 which means height/weight/hemoglobin measurements are deferred. In reviewing the waiver language, it has been determined that height/weight/hemoglobin measurements may be delayed to the next certification or midcertification. It is not necessary to “catch up” on the missed measurements.

Example 1: Infant born 6/10/2019, Certified 6/20/2019:

- Midcertification appointment 3/27/2020 – Ht/wt/hgb measurements were deferred due to waiver.
- Certification for One Year Old scheduled 6/15/2020 – Ht/wt/hgb measurements can be delayed to December 2020 midcertification due to waiver. Provide Additional Education in September 2020.

Example 2: Child born 12/10/2018, Certified 12/20/2019:

- Midcertification appointment scheduled for 6/26/2020 – Ht/wt/hgb measurements can be delayed to December 2020 Certification due to waiver. Provide Additional Education in September 2020.

Best Practice: Obtain height/weight/hemoglobin data from health care provider during this waiver period.

- Height/weight/hemoglobin measurements are important building blocks of the WIC Nutrition Assessment and better enable the CPA to tailor nutrition education to the specific needs of the participant.

COVID-19 UPDATES

- Inform participants on procedures for obtaining the measurements from their health care provider. A participant may also share a print screen of the measurements from their electronic record.
- Prioritize obtaining referral measurements for higher risk participants, such as pregnant women.

If you have questions about this or need more information, please contact your State WIC Consultant.

Caseload Update

Data shared about caseload trends from this morning's Local Agency call will be shared in HuBERT Hints in next week's (June 3, 2020) Wednesday Update.