



State of New Jersey  
**DEPARTMENT OF HEALTH**  
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**To:** NJ WIC Authorized Vendors

**From:** Prateek Srivastava, WIC Executive Director *PS*

**Date:** October 30, 2025

**Reply to Attention of:** NJWIC #026-002

**Subject:** Federal Government Shutdown and WIC Operations

We are writing to provide you with an important update on the current federal government shutdown and its impact on the New Jersey Women, Infants, and Children (WIC) Program.

While the federal government is currently experiencing a funding lapse, **New Jersey WIC remains open and fully operational.** The New Jersey Department of Health (NJDOH) has secured sufficient funds to maintain all regular WIC program operations during this period. Participants can continue to use their WIC benefits as usual, and **authorized vendors must continue to accept WIC transactions** at their stores until further notice.

We understand there has been some confusion about reports on the Supplemental Nutrition Assistance Program (SNAP), previously known as “food stamps”. **Please note that SNAP and WIC are separate programs;** they are funded and administered differently. While SNAP may be affected by federal funding interruptions, this does not impact WIC operations in New Jersey. WIC participants should continue to use their benefits normally, and vendors should continue to process WIC transactions without interruption.

Should the situation change, we will promptly notify all vendors with updated guidance.

We appreciate your continued partnership and commitment to serving New Jersey families. Your cooperation ensures that WIC participants continue to have access to nutritious foods during this period of uncertainty.

If you have any questions, please email [NJ.WICVendor@doh.nj.gov](mailto:NJ.WICVendor@doh.nj.gov).

Thank you for your ongoing support of the New Jersey WIC Program.