

<p style="text-align: center;"><b>Nutrition Services</b> <b>Department of State Health Services</b></p>
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Effective June 1, 2002

Policy No. GA:09.0

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**Local Agency Coordination with Hospitals**

**Purpose**

To facilitate the enrollment of newborn infants, or pregnant women at nutrition risk at the earliest possible date.

**Authority**

7 CFR Part 246.6(f)

**Policy**

Any local agency (LA) which either operates a WIC program or clinic site within a hospital or has a cooperative agreement with one of more hospitals shall advise potentially eligible individuals that receive inpatient or outpatient prenatal, maternity, or postpartum services, or accompany a child under the age of five who receives well-child services, of the availability of Program benefits. In addition, to the extent possible, the LA shall provide an opportunity for individuals who may be eligible for WIC to be certified within the hospital for participation in the program.

**Procedures**

- I. All hospital patients/clients who are categorically eligible for the WIC program shall be provided information about the program. At a minimum, this information shall include eligibility criteria, the name, address and phone number of the LA, and/or the state agency 1-800 number.
  
- II. Whenever feasible, the LA shall provide an opportunity for certification at the hospital. This may be done by agreement with the hospital to provide adequate space for WIC services.