



**TEXAS WIC PROGRAM**  
**Department of State Health Services**  
**Food Issuance and Redemption Services Unit - MC 4554**  
P.O. Box 149347  
Austin, TX 78714-9347  
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February 4, 2009

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**WIC Food Package Revisions and ECR Configurations**

WIC food packages are changing on October 1, 2009, to include the following:

1. Adding whole grains;
2. Adding soy milk and tofu;
3. Adding infant fruits, vegetables and meats;
4. Adding canned fish;
5. Adding fruits and vegetables;
6. Reducing whole milk, juice, eggs, cheese, and baby formula.

More information on the specific changes in the food packages will be provided to you in the near future. The addition of fruits and vegetables will require that your WIC enabled electronic cash register (ECR) system transact cash value for fruit and vegetable benefits beginning October 1, 2009.

The State shipped updated technical specification documents to the ECR developers in August 2008 and began conducting weekly conference calls with the ECR developers in October 2008. Frequently asked questions (FAQs) resulting from these calls are posted on DSHS' website and can be found online at the following address:

[http://www.dshs.state.tx.us/wichd/ebt/new\\_food\\_package.shtm](http://www.dshs.state.tx.us/wichd/ebt/new_food_package.shtm)

Failure to accommodate the revisions in the WIC food packages (specifically fruit and vegetable transactions) on October 1, 2009, could result in your store no longer being able to participate in the WIC Program. Please contact your ECR system provider or internal ECR developer to ensure the necessary changes will be incorporated into your ECR system prior to the October 1, 2009, implementation date of cash value.

Should you have questions regarding the impact of the new food packages on your WIC EBT ECR system or would like to request a copy of the updated system specification documents, please contact John Hannemann at 1-800-252-9629, ext 4566 or email [WICEBTSUPPORT@dshs.state.tx.us](mailto:WICEBTSUPPORT@dshs.state.tx.us) .