



TEXAS WIC PROGRAM
Department of State Health Services
Food Issuance and Redemption Services Unit - MC 4554
P.O. Box 149347
Austin, TX 78714-9347
(512) 341-4425 1-800-252-9629 (Texas Only)

September 2, 2008

Impact of Hurricane Gustav:

Acceptance of Louisiana WIC Checks in Texas

As you are aware, Hurricane Gustav made landfall in south Louisiana on Monday. In anticipation of Gustav's landfall, there were large-scale evacuations of people out of the area. These evacuations included thousands of people travelling from Louisiana to Texas. Included in the evacuees are Louisiana WIC participants who may try to purchase items at your store using Louisiana WIC checks.

Texas grocers may accept Louisiana WIC checks presented by evacuees during this period. Louisiana WIC checks are negotiable instruments that can be deposited by Texas grocers and pharmacies directly into your store's bank account just as you would deposit personal checks taken at your store. USDA has advised the Department of State Health Services (DSHS) that Louisiana WIC checks deposited in Texas will be paid.

Texas grocers should follow the Texas WIC Allowable foods list (same items/brands/sizes authorized for Texas WIC participants). For infant formula remember to only issue the infant formula brand and size specified on the Louisiana WIC check – no substitutions.

Again, deposit the Louisiana WIC checks to your store's bank account.

Louisiana WIC checks should not be sent to Texas WIC. Louisiana WIC checks inadvertently sent to Texas WIC will delay payment of the checks as we will have to forward the checks to Louisiana for payment.

If you have any questions about accepting Louisiana WIC checks please contact the WIC Vendor Help Line at:

1-800-252-9629