



Memorandum

#11-126

TO: WIC Regional Directors
WIC Local Agency Directors

FROM: Linda Brumble, Unit Manager
Nutrition Education/Clinic Services Unit
Nutrition Services Section

DATE: September 30, 2011

SUBJECT: Modifications to the September Breast Pump Orders

This announcement updates the current status of the September breast pump orders.

As announced in an email to Local Agency (LA) WIC Directors on Friday, September 23, 2011, the total quantity of breast pumps ordered by the LAs greatly exceeded the dollar amount approved by the U. S. Department of Agriculture.

Based on the current funding available, the State Agency (SA) was forced to reduce all orders – some by approximately 50% – and then make adjustments based on participation rate. Unfortunately, the reduction will affect all LA orders, but no one will go without products they ordered. Adjustments are reflected on the online Breastfeeding Order System (BOS) located at <http://texaswic.dshs.state.tx.us:4554>.

Please note, the September breast pump orders are currently being filled and will continue to be shipped to LAs through the end of December. Although the orders were reduced, they are still larger than a typical quarterly order. Each pump shipment should be reconciled and accounted for on the appropriate pump log upon delivery.

Moving forward into FY12, we are all having to be a little more conservative with our resources; however, breastfeeding promotion is still one of WIC's primary functions. Our goal is to continue helping our participants achieve their breastfeeding goals despite our limitations. Please continue issuing pumps, as per Texas WIC policies *BF:05.0* and *BF:06.0*, and do not implement LA policies or practices that restrict pump issuance.

As a reminder, breast pumps are a food expenditure, and LAs are not allowed to purchase or lease breast pumps as per Policy *AC:34.0*. LAs will be notified if additional food funding, for pumps, is available to the SA in FY12.

If you have questions regarding these changes or the breast pump program, please contact Lindsey Randall, Breast Pump Coordinator, Nutrition Education/Clinic Services Unit, at (512) 341-4594 or lindsey.randall@dshs.state.tx.us.