

WIC Vendor Identification/Date of Transaction Stamp (Obsolete)

- I. The purpose of the WIC Vendor Identification/Date of Transaction Stamp System is to reconcile the redemption of a WIC check to a specific WIC vendor, determine the date of transaction, analyze redemption patterns, and eliminate the loss of WIC food dollars to unauthorized or abusive vendors.
- II. The system involves placement of the Utah WIC Identification number and the date of transaction combined stamp by the vendor on the check in the space provided for "PAY TO WIC VENDOR (STAMP)" and "DATE USED (STAMP)". Vendor's placement of the vendor identification number and transaction date on the check will validate the check, so that the vendor may receive payment for the WIC foods purchased. Without the stamp imprint of both the identification number and the transaction date, the check will be invalid and returned to the vendor unpaid.

III. Issuance and Return

- a. The State Agency will issue one (1) combined WIC Identification number and date used stamp to all vendors upon initial authorization without cost.
- b. When a vendor agreement becomes null and void through closure of a store, change of ownership, or termination of an agreement (by either the vendor or State Agency), the vendor must surrender all stamps issued to the State Agency by mail or in person within ten (10) days.
- c. Additional stamps can be purchased from the State WIC Agency.

IV. Check Screening

- a. The bank will screen all WIC checks for the authorized vendor stamp and transaction date. All checks that have not been imprinted with the authorized identification number or transaction date, have a handwritten vendor number or date, or are imprinted with an unauthorized, lost, or stolen stamp will be rejected by the bank and returned to the vendor unpaid.

V. Vendor Responsibilities and Check Validation

- a. The vendor must to place the stamp in the designated box on the check prior to deposit and when resubmitting checks for validation payment or adjustment. Proper placement of the stamp on the WIC check prior to deposit (and any re-deposit) validates the check.
- b. Checks validated improperly or by an unauthorized vendor or person (including terminated or inactive stores) will be the vendor's liability.

VI. Lost or Stolen Stamps

- a. The vendor is responsible for contacting the State Agency within two (2) working days of discovering that any authorized stamps are lost or stolen.
- b. If the vendor has additional stamps with the same identification number, the stamps must be surrendered to the State Agency within ten (10) days.
- c. The State Agency will issue a new stamp with a different identification number to vendors who have reported the loss.

VII. Vendor Stamp Violations

- a. Failure to report a lost or stolen stamp is an act of non-compliance. Duplication or use an unauthorized, lost, or stolen stamp is a violation of the vendor agreement and can result in State Agency violation points or sanctions.
- b. Any vendor who commits fraud or abuse of the program may be prosecuted under applicable federal, state or local laws.