

<p style="text-align: center;">Texas WIC Health and Human Services Commission</p>

Effective December 1, 2017

Policy No. GA:08.0 (T)

**Provision of Information to WIC Applicants and Participants About
Other Health-related and Public Assistance Programs**

Purpose

To ensure that WIC applicants/participants receive written information about the Supplemental Nutrition Assistance Program (SNAP), Temporary Assistance to Needy Families (TANF), Medicaid, Texas Health Steps (THSteps), Children’s Health Insurance Program (CHIP), CHIP Perinatal, Healthy Texas Women Program (HTW) and Child Support Enforcement Programs.

Authority

7 CFR Part 246.7 (b); State Policy

Policy

Local agencies (LA) shall provide written information about the above listed programs to all adult applicants of the WIC Program who are applying for themselves or on behalf of others.

Procedures

- I. Upon initial application to the WIC Program, all adults applying for the program for themselves or on behalf of others shall be provided written information about SNAP, TANF, THSteps, Medicaid, CHIP, CHIP Perinatal Program, HTW, and the Child Support Enforcement Program. Posting information in a public area does not satisfy this requirement. Applicants must individually receive written information at initial application.
 - A. If such individuals are not currently participating in Medicaid but appear to have family income below the applicable maximum income limits for the program, the LA shall refer these

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individuals to Medicaid, including the referral of infants and children to the THSteps Program.

- B. Information on Medicaid shall include the following:
 - 1. a description of the services Medicaid provides;
 - 2. maximum income limits, according to family size, applicable to pregnant women, infants, and children up to age 5 which are used by the Medicaid Program for income screening; and
 - 3. an explanation that Medicaid counts a pregnant woman as if she were a family of two.
- C. Information on the THW shall include the following:
 - 1. A description of the services THW provides;
 - 2. A THW application. THW applications shall be kept at all clinics;
 - 3. and an explanation that WIC clients are adjunctively income-eligible for the THW. Participation in WIC may be documented by a copy of a Verification of Certification (VOC), or an EBT shopping list,
 - a. LAs shall provide a VOC in a timely manner to any client who requests one.
 - b. LAs are encouraged to explain that WIC applicants are not required to complete the list of income for the household or provide proof of income other than the copy of the VOC or shopping list. This information is not clearly stated on the WHP application form.
- II. At subsequent certifications, written information about these programs shall also be made available. LAs may post written information in a public area to satisfy this requirement or continue to individually provide written information to each person.
- III. LAs may use the fact sheets provided by the SA or produce their own written information about these programs in a different format, if so desired. LAs shall provide local addresses and phone numbers for local program providers.

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- IV. Documentation that written information was provided to adult participants/applicants or to adults applying on behalf of others is not required.

Guidelines

CHIP - is for children ages 18 and younger. It is a health insurance program for families who earn too much money to get Medicaid, but cannot pay for private insurance. For more information, go to:

<https://hhs.texas.gov/services/health/medicaid-chip>

Children's Medicaid – same benefits as CHIP, but for lower-income eligible children. For more information, go to:

<https://hhs.texas.gov/services/health/medicaid-chip>

CHIP Perinatal – provides pregnancy coverage for women who cannot get Medicaid and do not have other health coverage. Benefits may include up to 20 prenatal visits, drugs ordered by a doctor, costs of giving birth, 2 visits for the mother after delivery. Regular checkups, vaccines and drugs ordered by a doctor for the baby may also be included. For more information, go to:

<https://hhs.texas.gov/services/health/medicaid-chip>

Child Support Enforcement – the Office of the Attorney General helps families establish a child's legal father, set child support, collect child support payments, and offers services to help parents work together to meet their children's physical and emotional needs. For more information, go to:

<https://www.texasattorneygeneral.gov/cs/welcome-to-the-child-support-division>

Supplemental Nutrition Assistance Program (SNAP)–helps families buy food. SNAP benefits are given through the Lonestar Card. For more information, go to: <https://yourtexasbenefits.hhsc.texas.gov/programs/snap>

Medicaid – offers health care coverage for children, pregnant women, people with disabilities, people 65 and older, and some adults caring for children. It helps with bills for doctors, hospitals, nursing homes, and drugs

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ordered by a doctor. Children who get Medicaid will also be in the Texas Health Steps Program.

For more information, go to: <http://www.tmhp.com/Pages/default.aspx> or <https://hhs.texas.gov/services/health/medicaid-chip>

Temporary Assistance to Needy Families (TANF) - helps families with children ages 18 and younger pay for things like food, clothing and housing. TANF benefits are given through the Lone Star Card.

For more information, go to:
<https://yourtexasbenefits.hhsc.texas.gov/programs/tanf>

Texas Health Steps –includes health care for children birth through age 20 who have Medicaid. Texas Health Steps provides child free medical checkups starting at birth, and free dental checkups starting at 6 months of age. For more information, go to: <http://www.txhealthsteps.com/cms/>

Healthy Texas Women (HTW) (formally Women’s Health Program) – offers women's health services, including free breast and cervical cancer screening and family planning services at no cost to eligible women in Texas. The person must be a Texas resident and a US citizens or legal resident. Individuals are not eligible for HTW services if they have private health insurance, Medicaid or Medicare. For more information, go to: <https://www.healthytexaswomen.org/>