



WIC Works HEADLINES

<http://www.nal.usda.gov/wicworks>

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What's New at WIC Works

The WIC Works team started Spring off with a bang by launching TWO brand new resources: **WIC Learning Online** and the **WIC Formula Database!**

The official launch took place in April at the National WIC Association Meeting in Anaheim, CA, where the resources were introduced at the USDA Food and Nutrition Service Town Hall Meeting. Conference participants were also able to get a sneak peek during the exhibits.

WIC Learning Online is

a series of **12 online learning modules** developed for all levels of WIC staff. The modules are combined into four lessons and can be accessed **anytime, anywhere, at no cost.**

The module topics were chosen based on feedback from WIC staff, with each of the 12 modules taking about **25 minutes** to complete. The course is self-paced with an option to print a **certificate** upon completion.

WIC Learning Online can be accessed from the **WIC Works homepage** at

<http://www.nal.usda.gov/wicworks>.

While visiting our homepage, you can also access the **WIC Formula Database** in the new WIC Databases section. Here you can search for up-to-date product and manufacturer information on WIC-approved infant formulas, exempt infant formulas and medical foods.

See page 2 for more on these resources and to learn about the many ways they can be used to build your skills and make your job easier.

Upcoming Events

National WIC Association 2004 Breastfeeding Conference

Date: September 28-30, 2004
Location: Phoenix, AZ
Theme: "WIC - Growing Healthy Families." Enhance professional skills and learn ways to improve and re-energize WIC nutrition and

breastfeeding services (description from Web site).
Info: <http://nwanutritionandbreastfeeding.com/>.

American Dietetic Association 2004 Food & Nutrition Conference & Expo

Date: October 2-5, 2004

Location: Anaheim, CA
Theme: "Unlock Your Potential." Explore exciting opportunities to advance your career and enhance your life (description from Web site).
Info: http://www.eatright.org/Public/96_13100.cfm.



NEW! Online Learning Course for all WIC Staff

In April 2004, the National Agricultural Library's (NAL), Food and Nutrition Information Center (FNIC), WIC Works Team in collaboration with the USDA Food and Nutrition Service, WIC Headquarters Office, launched **WIC Learning Online** – a series of **12 online learning modules**. The modules are organized into four lessons and cover a broad range of topics:

1. Communicating with Participants

- ◆ Providing Quality Customer Service
- ◆ Communicating with Low Literacy Audiences
- ◆ Working in a Multicultural Environment

2. Counseling Skills

- ◆ Using Facilitated Discussion
- ◆ Introducing Motivational Interviewing
- ◆ Applying Motivational Interviewing

3. Reaching Participants through WIC

- ◆ Getting the Word Out - Program Outreach
- ◆ Connecting Participants with Support Services
- ◆ Making Nutrition Education Fun and Attractive

4. Health and Nutrition

- ◆ Feeding Infants and Children Safely
- ◆ Breastfeeding Promotion and Support
- ◆ Herbs and Supplements: What You Should Know

Each module takes about **25 minutes** to complete and includes an introduction/summary, pre/post test, practical tips and examples and job aids for printing and training. A **certificate** is available to print once the course is completed.



The course can be accessed from the **WIC Works homepage** at <http://www.nal.usda.gov/wicworks>. After clicking on **WIC Learning Online** you will be able to access two sections of WIC Works that support the course.

In the **“How to Get Started”** section you can find a Quick Start Guide, course tutorial and the learner computer requirements. Please note that the course

Does **not** work in Netscape 7, but will work fine in all versions of Internet Explorer and previous versions of Netscape.

In the **“Support Center”** you can view printable versions of the job aids, as well as references, and links to more information so you can keep learning even after you finish the course.

To help facilitate staff usage of the course, the WIC Team developed the **“Staff Training and Outreach Materials”** section where you can print color promotional handouts for the course and download a training Power Point presentation.

WIC Learning Online is interactive and easy to follow, allowing you to **learn at your own pace, from anywhere, at anytime!** It can be used for new employee orientation, staff training, continuing education, or just to refresh and build your skills.

NEW! WIC Formula Database

Another reason to visit the WIC Works Resource System is to search our new **WIC Formula Database**, a joint project with the USDA/Food and Nutrition Service.

The database can be accessed from

our homepage at <http://www.nal.usda.gov/wicworks>.

The database replaces the 1990 publication, *Infant Formulas, Exempt Infant Formulas, and Medical Foods Eligible for Use in WIC, FNS-268*.

The database is scheduled to be reviewed and updated on a semi-annual basis and will be helpful to staff of WIC State and local agencies, health professionals, manufacturers and the general public.