

# STATE OF COLORADO

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Dedicated to protecting and improving the health and environment of the people of Colorado

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Colorado Department  
of Public Health  
and Environment

TO:                    Local Agency WIC Directors

FROM:                State Office

SUBJECT:            New Food Package Training: An In-Depth Look at the New Food Groups

DATE:                March 17, 2009

The implementation of new food packages is quickly approaching! This month's training packet concentrates on:  
a) preparing staff for the major changes in the WIC foods and b) reviewing the transition timeline and staff responsibilities.

After WIC staff is well versed in the new foods, we can then turn our attention to preparing WIC participants. The April training packet will concentrate on: a) determining the correct food package for each participant, b) introducing participants to their new food packages and the new WIC Allowable Foods List (Foods List), and c) ensuring that participants are trained in the new procedures for redeeming WIC checks. Armed with this information, WIC staff and participants will be excited and ready for the new food packages.

First, let's take closer look at the transition schedule and the new food benefits that WIC will begin to provide on June 1, 2009. Materials for the topics listed below are included in this packet:

- **Schedule:** The transition schedule for preparing WIC staff, participants and the community; and
- **New Foods:** The new groups of foods that are being introduced as well as ways to identify allowed and non-allowed items (including activities contributed by various local agencies and Tri-County Health Department, to help staff members become experts in the WIC allowable foods).

*A Director Facilitation Guide* is enclosed to assist in staff training. Ideally you will review all of the enclosed materials, and staff will review the staff handouts before your next staff meeting and training.

cc:    State WIC Office Staff  
      Patricia Daniluk

Enclosures