

# The Vendor Register

## WIC and EBT News

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### Gerber Infant Formula

The transition of contracted formula from Abbott to Gerber began on Oct. 1 and will be complete by Dec 31, 2016. During this transition period, WIC participants may have either Abbott (Similac) or Gerber formulas on their WIC Nutrition Card (WNC). Participants may only receive the formula that is contained on their WNC. Vendors should not be overriding or substituting any WIC benefits. Allowing participants to purchase or receive benefits not contained on their WNC is a violation of the Ohio Administrative Code (OAC) and may lead to a disqualification for the WIC program. For minimum stocking purposes through the transition period, vendors can have a combination of Abbott and Gerber formulas as long as they have the minimum can count that is required per store size. Please refer to the WIC website for further minimum stocking requirements through the transition.



### 48 Hour Claim File Submission

All authorized WIC vendors are responsible for submitting claim files to the state host within 48 hours of the oldest transaction in the file. Claim files that are submitted outside of the required time frame will not be paid. All WIC authorized vendors are responsible for making sure that all claim files are submitted in a timely manor. Claim file submission can be verified on the vendor portal.



# Help Fight Birth Defects... Help Fight Infant Mortality

We invite you to join in a voluntary effort to help fight birth defects and infant mortality. You can help by posting one or more of the signs shown in this newsletter advising women not to drink alcohol during pregnancy.

Ohio's infant mortality rate is among the highest in the U.S. at 7.4 per 1,000 live births in 2013; 1,024 infants in Ohio died before their first birthday in 2013. The three leading clinical causes of infant death are prematurity due to preterm birth (babies born too early), birth defects and sleep-related deaths.

Drinking alcohol during pregnancy can cause Fetal Alcohol Spectrum Disorders (FASD). FASD refers to the whole range of effects that can happen to a person whose mother drank alcohol during pregnancy. These conditions can affect each person in different ways, and can include premature birth, birth defects, brain damage and risk of sudden infant death syndrome.

The signs may be posted in stores where alcoholic beverages are sold. You can order any of the signs featured on the next page at the following Survey Monkey site:

<https://www.surveymonkey.com/r/PHFPWV3>

For additional information on FASD, please see the following article.

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## Fetal Alcohol Spectrum Disorders (FASD)

FASDs are caused by a woman drinking alcohol during pregnancy. Alcohol in the mother's blood passes to the baby through the umbilical cord. When a woman drinks alcohol, so does her baby.

There is no known safe amount of alcohol during pregnancy or when trying to get pregnant. There is also no safe time to drink during pregnancy. Alcohol can cause problems for a developing baby throughout pregnancy, including before a woman knows she's pregnant. All types of alcohol are equally harmful, including all wines and beer.

FASD is an irreversible, lifelong condition that can become apparent at any time during childhood. It affects every aspect of a child's life and the lives of the child's family.

To prevent FASDs, a woman should not drink alcohol while she is pregnant, or when she might get pregnant. This is because a woman could get pregnant and not know for up to four to six weeks.

If a woman is drinking alcohol during pregnancy, it is never too late to stop drinking. Brain growth takes place throughout pregnancy, meaning the sooner a woman stops drinking the safer it will be for her and her baby.

FASDs refer to the whole range of effects that can happen to a person whose mother drank alcohol during pregnancy. These conditions can affect each person in different ways, and can range from mild to severe.

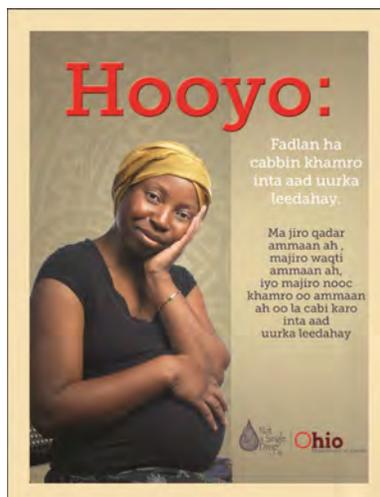
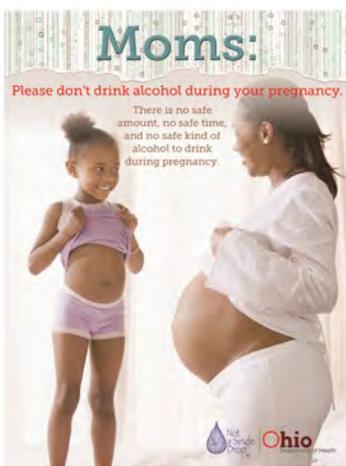
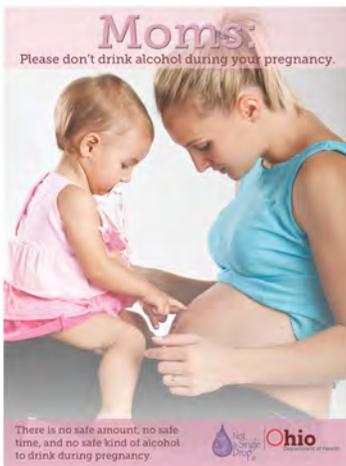
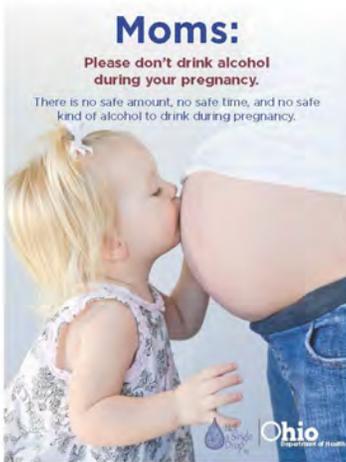
The cost factor of raising a child with an FASD is significant. The lifetime cost for one individual with Fetal Alcohol Syndrome (FAS), which represents the most involved end of the FASD spectrum, in 2002 was estimated to be \$2 million. This is an average for people with FAS and does not include data on people with other FASDs. People with severe problems, such as profound intellectual disability, have much higher costs. It is estimated that the cost to the United States for FAS alone is over \$4 billion annually.

(Source: Centers for Disease Control and Prevention website: <http://www.cdc.gov/ncbddd/fasd/facts.html>)

# Moms: Please Don't Drink Alcohol During Your Pregnancy Signs

You can join in helping fight birth defects and infant mortality by ordering and posting one or more of the following signs in your store. Your order may be placed at the following Survey Monkey site:

<https://www.surveymonkey.com/r/PHFPWV3>



# Whole Grain Cereal

The Ohio WIC program requires authorized vendors to stock three different varieties of cereal, one of which must be a whole grain cereal. The United States Department of Agriculture (USDA) defines whole grain cereal as a cereal that has whole grain as the primary ingredient by weight AND meets Food and Drug Administration (FDA) labeling requirements for making a health claim as a "whole grain food with moderate fat content."



At least half of the cereals authorized on a State agency's food list must have whole grain as the primary ingredient by weight AND meet labeling requirements for making a health claim as a "whole grain food with moderate fat content".

# Rules

The Ohio WIC program has just completed their five year rule review. The revised Ohio Administrative Code (OAC) is now available on the Ohio.gov website. A copy of the revised OAC will be mailed to all authorized vendors in the near future. All authorized vendors are responsible for reviewing and abiding by the content of the OAC.

File Size	Rule No.	Title
31.0 KB	<a href="#">3701-42-01</a>	Definitions
14.0 KB	<a href="#">3701-42-02</a>	Food delivery system
42.0 KB	<a href="#">3701-42-03</a>	WIC vendor authorization
22.0 KB	<a href="#">3701-42-04</a>	WIC vendor contract
17.0 KB	<a href="#">3701-42-05</a>	Authorized foods; required minimum foods
28.0 KB	<a href="#">3701-42-06</a>	WIC vendor responsibilities
24.0 KB	<a href="#">3701-42-07</a>	Payment for food instruments
35.0 KB	<a href="#">3701-42-08</a>	Abuse of the WIC program; sanctions
31.0 KB	<a href="#">3701-42-09</a>	Administrative review of adverse action affecting vendor and applicant participation
15.0 KB	<a href="#">3701-42-10</a>	Pharmacy vendor authorization

This institution is an equal opportunity provider.

