



Memorandum

#10-082

TO: WIC Regional Directors
WIC Local Agency Directors

FROM: Linda Brumble, Unit Manager
Nutrition Education/Clinic Services Unit
Nutrition Services Section

DATE: July 9, 2010

SUBJECT: Extension of current WIC Income Guidelines

For the first time since the poverty guidelines began to be issued in 1965, the annual average Consumer Price Index (CPI-U) has decreased from the figure for the previous year. In the absence of this legislative change, the decrease in the annual average CPI-U for 2009 announced on January 15, 2010 (see <http://www.bls.gov/news.release/pdf/cpi.pdf> [PDF - 25 pages], Table 1A), would have required HHS to issue 2010 poverty guidelines that were lower than the 2009 poverty guidelines, which would have led to the “reduction in eligibility” referred to in the Congressional explanatory language.

We will issue updated WIC income guidelines after the Department of Health and Human Services (DHHS) publishes the updated poverty guidelines and USDA publishes the annual update to the income guidelines in the Federal Register and approves our WIC policy. We will continue to use the current WIC Income Guidelines until further notice.

If you have questions or require additional information, please contact Rachel Edwards, Manager, Information Response Management Group, at 1- 877-341-4491 extension 2263 or rachel.edwards@dshs.state.tx.us, or your IRM liaison at 1- 877-341-4491 option 6, followed by option 4.