



Memorandum

#14-129

TO: WIC Regional Directors
WIC Local Agency Directors

FROM: Amanda Hovis, Director
Nutrition Education/Clinic Services Unit
Nutrition Services Section

DATE: November 5, 2014

SUBJECT: Delay of Infant Food Package 685 - Increased Formula Quantity

In memo #14-104 staff were informed that food package 454 would be updated and available October 1, 2014 to provide increased amounts of both contract and non-contract formula due to an infant's inability to eat solids and when prescribed by healthcare providers. The Formula Updates training conducted on September 4th and 10th, and Final Food Rules for Texas WIC training (presented by Liz Bruns) in recent months, also provided the information about food package 454.

In mid-October, staff were informed that a new food package 685 would be available at the end of October to provide increased amounts of both contract and non-contract formula.

Deployment of this new food package will be delayed until mid-November.

In the meantime follow these instructions prior to download of the new food package:

- For increased quantities of exempt (therapeutic) formula – continue to use food package **454**.
- For non-exempt formula only – issue food package **552** for the month of October and November only. This food package provides formula only but at standard quantities for 6-11 month olds. Do not issue benefits beyond **November**. This will allow staff to issue the new food package 685, increased formula quantities, beginning with the **December** benefit month when it becomes available.

After a successful “end of day” process, food package 685 will be available for issuance in mid-November for December and future issuance. The system will not allow a void/replace for a food package which contains formula for the current month, so food package 685 is not intended for November issuance except for:

- First time issuance
- Missed appointment and/or no benefits in hand

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The Texas WIC Food Package Guide will be updated soon to reflect food package 685. The description for food package 454 was changed to its original description, 0-11 Months Exempt Formula Only. Both packages will co-exist for a period of time. In the future, the 454 package will be de-activated.

If you have any questions or require additional information, please contact Sandra Brown, Food/Formula Specialist, Nutrition Education/Clinic Services Unit, at 512-341-4576 or, Sandra.brown@dshs.state.tx.us or Paula Kanter, Clinical Nutrition Specialist, Nutrition Education/Clinic Services Unit, at 512-341-4574, or paula.kanter@dshs.state.tx.us.