



United States
Department of
Agriculture

February 14, 2012

Food and
Nutrition
Service

SUBJECT: WIC Policy Memorandum #2012-2
Nondiscrimination Statement for WIC Materials

3101 Park
Center Drive
Alexandria, VA
22302-1500

TO: Regional Directors
Supplemental Food Programs
All Regions

WIC State Agency Directors
All Regions

The purpose of this policy memorandum is to implement changes from the Department of Agriculture regarding the appropriate nondiscrimination statement to use on WIC materials. This policy memorandum supersedes WIC Policy Memorandum 2010-7, dated April 15, 2010. The authorized statement remains the same for the WIC Program, as reflected below. However, the address and telephone numbers to file discrimination complaints have been changed. The current nondiscrimination statement is as follows:

English:

In accordance with Federal Law and Department of Agriculture (USDA) policy, this institution is prohibited from discriminating on the basis of race, color, national origin, sex, age, or disability.

To file a complaint of discrimination, write USDA, Director, Office of Adjudication, 1400 Independence Avenue, SW, Washington, D.C. 20250-9410 or call toll free (866) 632-9992 (Voice). Individuals who are hearing impaired or have speech disabilities may contact USDA through the Federal Relay Service at (800) 877-8339; or (800) 845-6136 (Spanish). USDA is an equal opportunity provider and employer.

Spanish:

De acuerdo con la ley federal y las políticas del Departamento de Agricultura de los EE.UU. (USDA, sigla en inglés), se le prohíbe a esta institución que discrimine por razón de raza, color, origen, sexo, edad, o discapacidad.

Para presentar una queja sobre discriminación, escriba a USDA, Director, Office of Adjudication, 1400 Independence Avenue, SW, Washington, D.C. 20250-9410, o llame gratis al (866) 632-9992 (voz). Personas con discapacidad auditiva o del habla pueden contactar con USDA por medio del Servicio Federal de Relevos (Federal Relay Service)

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al (800) 845-6136 (español) o (800) 877-8339 (inglés). USDA es un proveedor y empleador que ofrece oportunidad igual para todos.

If the material is too small to permit the full statement to be included, the material will at a minimum include the statement, in print size no smaller than the text that **“This institution is an equal opportunity provider.”**

In order to avoid waste of current materials, WIC State and local agencies may deplete current supplies. All new materials, however, must include the revised statement.

A civil rights statement is not required to be imprinted on items such as cups, buttons, magnets, and pens that identify the WIC Program, when the size or configuration make it impractical. In addition, recognizing that radio and television public service announcements are generally short in duration, the nondiscrimination statement does not have to be read in its entirety. Rather, a statement such as **“WIC is an equal opportunity provider”** is sufficient to meet the nondiscrimination requirement. Finally, nutrition education and breastfeeding promotion and support materials that strictly provide a nutrition message with no mention of the WIC Program, are not required to contain the nondiscrimination statement.



DEBRA R. WHITFORD

Director

Supplemental Food Programs Division