



KAREN L. SMITH, MD, MPH
Director and State Public Health Officer

State of California—Health and Human Services Agency
California Department of Public Health



GAVIN NEWSOM
Governor

January 9, 2019

Dear WIC Directors,

The California WIC Program remains open to serve WIC families during the federal government shutdown. The California Department of Public Health (CDPH) has sufficient funding to continue to support local agencies and vendors through at least March 31, 2019. There is sufficient funding to provide services and benefits to California participants including WIC Checks and nutrition services.

CDPH/WIC has notified authorized vendors that they must continue to accept WIC checks. If you become aware participants are turned away at stores and are unable to use their WIC checks for food, please notify your assigned Nutrition Consultant so we can be of assistance in providing additional education to any vendor in need.

Please share this information with your staff and WIC families. It is important that accurate information is available. California's situation may be different than other states and you may hear news reports or other information that is not accurate. CDPH/WIC continues to monitor the situation and we will continue to communicate with you to keep you up to date on the situation.

Sincerely,

Christine Nelson
CDPH/WIC Division Chief



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