

Section III: State Agency Procedure Manual

VI. Food Funds Management

C. Participant Priority Ranking System

Purpose

To ensure local agencies serve the highest priority WIC participants when the maximum participation level has been reached.

Policy

Each participant has a priority level assigned to them when they are certified in the program and appropriate risk codes have been assigned. This priority system will guide the state and local programs in ensuring the highest priority participants are served if maximum caseload is reached and a waiting list has been implemented.

1. Priority System

- The State will use the following priority levels:
 - Priority I: Pregnant women, breastfeeding women and infants at nutrition risk as demonstrated by hematological or anthropometric measurements, or other documented nutrition-related medical conditions which demonstrate the person's need for supplemental foods.
 - Priority II: Except those infants who qualify for Priority I, infants (up to 6 months of age) of women who participated during pregnancy, and infants (up to 6 months of age) born of women who were not WIC participants during pregnancy but whose medical records document that they were at nutrition risk during pregnancy due to nutrition conditions detectable by biochemical or anthropometric measurements or other documented nutrition-related medical conditions which demonstrated the person's need for supplemental foods.
 - Priority III: Children at nutrition risk as demonstrated by hematological or anthropometric measurements or other documented medical conditions which demonstrate the child's need for supplemental foods; postpartum participants pregnant at 20 years of age or under.
 - Priority IV: Pregnant women, breastfeeding women, and infants at nutrition risk because of an inadequate dietary pattern, migrant status, or homelessness.
 - Priority V: Children at nutrition risk because of an inadequate dietary pattern, migrant status, or homelessness.
 - Priority VI: Postpartum women at nutrition risk.