

Section 5.10: Mid-Certification

4/2020

References: 7CFR 246.7 (g) (1); 7CFR 246.11(e) (3); USDA Guidance for Providing Quality WIC Nutrition Services during Extended Certification Periods, August 2011

Policy: Participants with a certification period greater than 6 months require a mid-certification assessment.

Purpose: To ensure participants certified for a period greater than 6 months continue to receive quality nutrition services and education.

Procedures

Timing of mid-certification appointment by category

- Infants: around 9 months of age
- Children: 6th month of certification (5-7 month time frame)
- Breastfeeding women: 6th month of certification or with infant's mid-certification appointment

Mid-certification assessment components

To ensure that health and nutrition services are not diminished by an extended certification period, the mid-certification assessment must include:

- Anthropometric measurements
- Bloodwork (follow WIC bloodwork schedule, [Section 5.3.2: Hematologic Assessment](#))
- Update health and nutrition assessment – an abbreviated assessment is necessary to identify any major changes in health status. It includes:
 - Review information obtained at last certification to adequately compare previous and current screenings, nutrition education and referrals.
 - New concerns of participant
 - New medical diagnosis
 - Changes in eating pattern/food intake
 - Changes in physical activity

5.10: MID-CERTIFICATION

- Check on immunization, if appropriate
- Nutrition counseling or education
- Food package review and change, if needed
- Breastfeeding promotion and support
- Referrals, if needed

Use the Mid-Certification Assessment Question resources as guides:

- [Midcertification Assessment Questions - Infant](#)
- [Midcertification Assessment Questions - Child](#)
- [Midcertification Assessment Questions - Breastfeeding Woman](#)

The following components **are not required** at mid-certification:

- Proof of income
- Proof of address
- Proof of ID
- Physical presence
- Reviewing WIC Rights and Responsibilities

If a mid-certification appointment is missed, local agency staff may issue only one month of benefits and reschedule the mid-certification appointment for the following month.

Guidance

- Schedule infants' mid-certification at, or after, the "9 month birthday" to correlate with the WIC bloodwork schedule, [Section 5.3.2: Hematologic Assessment](#).
 - Bloodwork must be done **at or after** nine months of age.
 - In the very rare occasions when an infant's mid-certification occurs before they are nine months of age, do not test the blood at the mid-certification. Instead, do bloodwork at the next certification (usually at approximately one year of age).
- Participants certified for a period of 6 months or less do not require a mid-certification. However, CPAs should follow-up on ht/wt/hgb measurements based on the individual's nutrition and health status. For example, a premature infant certified at 6 months of age could benefit from a hgb measurement and evaluation around 9 months of age.
- Use this mid-certification appointment time to verify address & phone number.

Reference – Complete Listing of Hyperlinks

Section 5.3.2: Hematologic Assessment

(https://www.health.state.mn.us/docs/people/wic/localagency/program/mom/chsctns/ch5/sctn5_3_2.pdf)

Midcertification Assessment Questions - Infant

(<https://www.health.state.mn.us/docs/people/wic/localagency/training/pcs/assessment/mcainfant.pdf>)

Midcertification Assessment Questions - Child

(<https://www.health.state.mn.us/docs/people/wic/localagency/training/pcs/assessment/mcacchild.pdf>)

Midcertification Assessment Questions - Breastfeeding Woman

(<https://www.health.state.mn.us/docs/people/wic/localagency/training/pcs/assessment/mcabf.pdf>)

Minnesota Department of Health - WIC Program 625 Robert St N, PO BOX 64975, ST PAUL MN 55164-0975; 1-800-657-3942, health.wic@state.mn.us, www.health.state.mn.us. To obtain this information in a different format, call: 1-800-657-3942

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