

New Hope Services, Inc.

Frequently Asked Questions

Women, Infant & Children (WIC)

Who is eligible to apply for WIC?

Pregnant women, breastfeeding and postpartum women, infants and children under 5 years of age.

Is WIC a welfare program?

No. WIC is for all families, working and non-working, who have a gross income up to 185% of poverty. For example, a family of four may gross \$34,039/year and be eligible to apply for WIC.

If I am pregnant, does the baby count as a household member?

Yes. If a single pregnant mom applies for WIC, her household size would be considered two people.

How long do most individuals participate on WIC?

Although all children may reapply for WIC up to their 5th birthday, the average time for participation is around 18 months.

What are the benefits for children to participate in the WIC program?

4 or 5 year olds whose mothers participated in WIC during pregnancy had better vocabulary test scores than children whose mothers had not received WIC benefits. Children who participated in WIC after their first birthday had better digit memory test scores than children who did not participate in WIC.

How cost effective is WIC?

Every dollar spent on pregnant women in WIC produces \$1.92 to \$4.21 in Medicaid savings for newborns and their mothers. Medicaid costs were reduced on average between \$12,000 to \$15,000 per infant for every very low birth weight prevented through WIC prenatal participation.

How many babies in Indiana are on the WIC program?

One out of every two babies born in Indiana is on the WIC program.

Do I need an appointment?

Yes. Along with the appointment, you will also need to bring income verification, identification, documentation verifying address, children's immunization record and a 24 hour diet recall..