Nutrition Risk Definitions

Policy

USDA Federal Regulations: (a) Requirements. By August 15 of each year, each State agency shall submit to FNS for approval a State Plan for the following fiscal year as a prerequisite to receiving funds under this section. (11) A copy of the procedure manual developed by the State agency for guidance to local agencies in operating the Program. The manual shall include— (i) Certification procedures, including: (A) A list of the specific nutritional risk criteria by priority level which explains how a person's nutritional risk is determined;

- (2) Nutritional risk criteria. The following are examples of nutritional risk conditions which may be used as a basis for certification. These examples include—
- (i) Detrimental or abnormal nutritional conditions detectable by biochemical or anthropometric measurements, such as anemia, underweight, overweight, abnormal patterns of weight gain in a pregnant woman, low birth weight in an infant, or stunting in an infant or child;
- (ii) Other documented nutritionally related medical conditions, such as clinical signs of nutritional deficiencies, metabolic disorders, pre-eclampsia in pregnant women, failure to thrive in an infant, chronic infections in any person, alcohol or drug abuse or mental retardation in women, lead poisoning, history of high risk pregnancies or factors associated with high risk pregnancies (such as smoking; conception before 16 months postpartum; history of low birth weight, premature births, or neonatal loss; adolescent pregnancy; or current multiple pregnancy) in pregnant women, or congenital malformations in infants or children, or infants born of women with alcohol or drug abuse histories or mental retardation.
- (iii) Dietary deficiencies that impair or endanger health, such as inadequate dietary patterns assessed by a 24-hour dietary recall, dietary history, or food frequency checklist; and
- (iv) Conditions that predispose persons to inadequate nutritional patterns or nutritionally related medical conditions, such as homelessness or migrancy.

Authority

7 CFRPart 246.4(a)(11)(i)(A)*excerpt* 7 CFR Part 246.7(e)(2)(i-iv)

Procedures

This policy provides the abbreviated definitions for the risk criteria used by the Iowa WIC Program as well as the risk codes in numerical order using USDA numbers, priority assignments and the participant categories covered by each risk. For selected medical risks and selected dietary risks, an alpha character also appears with the USDA number. This character has been added to facilitate state reporting and tracking of specific risks and nutrition practices. The full definitions for the risk criteria can be found on the WIC web portal. https://hhs.iowa.gov/wic-

portal/policies

Some nutrition risk criteria, specified in the definition of each criterion, as appropriate, allow an applicant or caregiver to tell the CPA at the local WIC office (self-report) that the applicant has a condition that was diagnosed by a physician. Self-reporting of a diagnosis by a physician or other recognized medical authority should not be confused with self-diagnosis, where a person simply claims to have or has had a medical condition, without any reference to professional diagnosis of that condition.

A self-reported medical diagnosis should prompt the CPA to validate the presence of the condition by asking more probing questions related to the self-reported professional diagnosis, such as:

- Whether the condition is being managed by a medical professional;
- The name and contact information for that medical professional (to allow communication and verification if necessary);
- Whether it is being controlled by diet, medication, or other therapy; and
- What types of medications, if any have been prescribed, are being taken to address the condition.

Self-reporting for "History of..." conditions should be treated in the same manner as self-reporting for current conditions requiring a physician's diagnosis, i.e., the applicant may report to the CPA that s/he was diagnosed by a physician with a given condition at some point in the past. As with current conditions, self-diagnosis of a past condition should never be confused with self-reporting.

Some definitions of nutrition-related medical conditions include a non-exhaustive list of potential conditions (e.g., 348=Central nervous system disorders). If a WIC applicant reports a condition that is not included in the WIC data system, the Competent Professional Authority (CPA) must do the following:

- Document in the applicant's record risk 360 "Other Medical Conditions, severe enough to affect nutritional status" and then select "Other as defined in the care plan" from the drop down list.
- The CPA will then document the condition and how it interferes with food consumption, nutrient absorption or compromises nutritional status in the care plan. (While most medical conditions have an impact on nutritional status, some conditions do not. For purposes of eligibility, the impact of the medical condition on nutritional status must be clearly documented.)

High-Risk Conditions

The WIC data system automatically identifies some participants as high-risk based on their assigned risks. High risk conditions are identified in the definitions listed below by a +.

The Iowa WIC Program defines high risk as a nutrition problem or the potential for developing a nutrition problem that requires additional assessment, intervention, monitoring and evaluation by a licensed dietitian (Journal of the American Dietetic Association 2003; 103(6):1061-1072).

Participants who are at high-risk must have at least one individual education contact by a registered, licensed dietitian and have a nutrition care plan. This contact may take place at certification or at the second education contact. All second education contacts for high-risk participants must include a one-to-one contact and an updated care plan (Eg. The participant can complete wichealth.org for their second nutrition education contact but they must also have a phone or in person contact with a CPA (A dietitian if not seen at certification by one or any CPA if they were.)).

+ next to the X indicates that the participant category is high risk for that condition.

USDA Code	Definition	Preg	gnant	Bre	astfee g	din	In	ıfant	s	Chil	dren	Postpa	artum
		I	IV	I	II	I V	I	II	I V	III	V	III	VI
101	Underweight/women: Pregnant — Prepregnancy BMI <18.5	X											
	Breastfeeding <6 months postpartum & postpartum — Prepregnancy BMI <18.5 or current BMI <18.5			X									X
	Breastfeeding 6 months postpartum or more — Current BMI <18.5			X									
103a	At risk of underweight/infants & children: • <24 months — >2.3rd percentile and						X+			X+			

	plotted on the 2000 CDC age/gender specific growth charts *For the Birth to <24 months "underweight" definition, CDC labels the 2.3rd percentile as the 2nd percentile on the Birth to 24 months' gender specific hard copy growth charts. Electronic charts should use the 2.3rd percentile as the cut- off.												
USDA Code	Definition	Preg	gnant	Bre	astfee g	din	In	ıfant	s	Chil	dren	Postpa	artum
		I	IV	I	II	I V	I	II	I V	Ш	V	III	VI
103b	Underweight/infants & children:						X +			X +			
	 <24 months — ≤2.3rd percentile weight-for-length as plotted on the CDC Birth to 24 months' gender specific growth charts* ≥24 months — ≤5th percentile BMI- 												
	for-age as plotted on the 2000 CDC age/gender specific growth charts												
	*For the Birth to <24 months "underweight" definition, CDC labels the 2.3rd percentile as the 2nd percentile on the												

	Birth to 24 months' gender specific hard copy growth charts. Electronic charts should use the 2.3rd percentile as the cutoff.						
111	Overweight/women:	X					
	Pregnant women —						
	Prepregnancy BMI ≥25.0						
	Breastfeeding <6 months postpartum & postpartum — Prepregnancy BMI ≥25.0		X				X
	Breastfeeding 6 months postpartum or more — Current BMI ≥25.0		X				
113	Obese (Children 2-5 Years of Age):				X-		
	≥95th percentile BMI, or						
	• Weight-for-stature as plotted on the 2000 CDC 2-20 years gender specific growth charts						
	*The cut off is based on standing height measurements. Therefore, recumbent length measurements may not be used to determine						

	this risk.												
USDA Code	Definition	Preg	gnant	Bre	astfee g	din	Ir	ıfant	S	Chi	ldren	Postp	artum
		I	IV	I	II	I V	I	II	I V	III	V	III	VI
114	Overweight or at risk of overweight (infants & children):						X			X			
	Infants:												
	<12 months (infant of obese mother) – Biological mother with a BMI ≥ 30 at the time of conception or at any point in the first trimester of pregnancy*												
	*BMI must be based on self-reported weight and height by the parent in attendance (i.e., one parent may not "self-report" for the other parent) or weight and height measurements taken by staff at the time of certification.												
	Overweight/children <u>></u> 24 months:												
	≥85th and <95th percentile BMI-for-age, or												
	Weight-for-stature as plotted on the 2000 CDC 2-20 years gender specific growth charts												
	*The cut off is based on standing height												

	measurements. Therefore, recumbent length measurements may not be used to determine this risk.												
USDA Code	Definition	Preg	gnant	Bre	astfee g	din	In	ıfant	S	Chil	dren	Postpa	artum
		I	IV	I	II	I V	Ι	II	I V	III	V	III	VI
115	High weight-for-length birth to < 24 months						X			X			
	≥97.7th percentile weight-for-length as plotted on the CDC Birth to 24 months' gender specific growth charts												
	*CDC labels the 97.7th percentile as the 98th percentile on the hard copy Birth to 24 months' gender specific growth charts. Electronic charts should use the 97.7th percentile as the cut-off.												
121a	At risk for short stature: • <24 months — >2.3rd percentile and <5th percentile length-for-age as plotted on the CDC Birth to 24 months' gender specific growth charts*						X			X			

	• ≥24 months — >5th percentile and ≤10th percentile stature-for-age as plotted on the 2000 CDC age/gender specific growth charts *CDC labels the 2.3rd percentile as the 2nd percentile on the Birth to 24 months' hard copy gender specific growth charts. Electronic charts should use the 2.3rd percentile as the cut-off.												
USDA Code	Definition	Preg	gnant	Bre	astfee g	din	In	ıfant	S	Chi	ldren	Postp	artum
		I	IV	I	II	I V	I	II	I V	ш	V	III	VI
121b	 Short stature: <24 months - ≤ 2.3rd percentile length-for-age as plotted on the CDC Birth to 24 months' gender specific growth charts* ≥24 months - ≤5th percentile stature-for-age as plotted on the 2000 CDC age/gender specific growth charts 						X			X			

	The data system assigns nutrition risk criteria for short stature for premature infants and children up to 24 months based on adjusted gestational age. *CDC labels the 2.3rd percentile as the 2nd percentile on the Birth to 24 months' hard copy gender specific growth charts. Electronic charts should use the 2.3rd percentile as the cut-off.							
131	Low maternal weight gain:	X +						
	Defined as a low rate of weight gain such that in the 2nd and 3rd trimesters for singleton pregnancies —							
	Underweight women gain <1 lb./week							
	 Normal weight women gain <0.8 lb./week 							
	• Overweight women gain <0.5 lb./week							
	• Obese women gain <0.4 lb./week							
	OR							
	Using a National Academies of Sciences, Medicine, and Engineering (NASEM - formerly known as the Institute of							

USDA Code	Medicine) weight gain grid, a pregnant woman's weight plots at any point beneath the bottom line of the appropriate weight gain range for her respective prepregnancy weight category. Definition	Preg	gnant	Bre	astfee g	din	In	fant	s	Chil	dren	Postpa	artum
		I	IV	Ι	II	I V	I	II	I V	III	V	III	VI
133	High maternal weight gain (for singleton pregnancies):												
	Pregnant women —	X											
	Defined as a high rate of weight gain such that in the 2nd and 3rd trimesters:	A											
	Underweight women gain more than 1.3 lb./week			X									X
	Normal weight women gain more than 1 lb./week												
	Overweight women gain more than 0.7 lb./week												
	Obese women gain more than 0.6 lb./week												
	OR												

	Using an IOM-based weight gain grid, a pregnant woman's weight plots at any point above the top line of the appropriate weight gain range for her respective prepregnancy weight category Breastfeeding & postpartum women — Weight gain in most recent pregnancy exceeded these levels based on prepregnancy BMI: • Underweight >40 lb. • Normal weight >35 lb. • Overweight >25 lb. • Obese >20 lb.												
USDA Code	Definition	Preg	nant	Bre	astfee g	din	In	lfant	S	Chil	ldren	Postp	artum
		I	IV	I	II	I V	I	II	I V	Ш	V	III	VI
134	Failure to thrive: Failure to thrive (FTT) describes an inadequate growth pattern where growth is significantly lower than what is expected for age and sex (1, 2, 3, 4, 5). Typically a sign of undernutrition, the cause of FTT is often complex and includes						X+			X+			

	many factors					
135	Slowed/Faltering Growth Pattern: Infants Birth to 2 weeks- Excessive weight loss after birth, defined as ≥ 7% birth weight Infants 2 weeks to 6 Months of Age- Any weight loss using two separate weight measurements taken at least eight weeks apart.		X+ ≤6 mo			
141a	Low birth weight: ≤5.5 lb.		X +	X+ < 24 mo		
141b	Very low birth weight: < 3 lb. 5 oz.		X+	X+ < 24 mo		
142a	Preterm: Preterm: Delivery of an infant born ≤ 36 6/7 weeks gestation		X	X < 24 mo		
142b	Early Term Delivery:		X	X < 24 mo		

	Early Term: Delivery of an infant born \geq 37 and \leq 38 6/7 weeks' gestation	0/7											
USDA Code	Definition	Preg	gnant	Bre	astfee g	din	In	fant	S	Chil	dren	Postp	artum
		I	IV	I	II	I V	Ι	II	I V	III	V	III	VI
153	Large for gestational age: ≥9 lbs.						X						
201	Low hemoglobin/hematocrit: Infants & children 6-23 months old — • Hgb <11.0 gms						X +			X +			
	Children 2-5 years old — • Hgb <11.1 gms									X +			
	Pregnant women — • Hgb <11.0 gms (for wks. 0-13, 27-40+) • Hgb <10.5 gms (for wks. 14-26)	X+											

		I	IV	I	II	I V	I	II	I V	Ш	V	III	VI
USDA Code	Definition	Preg	nant	Bre	astfee g	din	Ir	ıfant	s	Chil	dren	Postp	artum
301	Hyperemesis gravidarum: Severe nausea and vomiting during pregnancy which may cause more than 5% weight loss and fluid and electrolyte imbalances.	X+											
211	Women (all categories) and Infants - ≥5 ug/dl in the last 12 months Children- ≥ 3.5ug/dl in the last 12 months	A		A			A			A			A
211	 Hgb <11.8 gms (for women 12-14 yrs.) Hgb <12.0 gms (for women 15-17 yrs.) Hgb <12.0 gms (for women ≥18 yr. Elevated blood lead level:	X+		X+ X+			X +			X+		X+	X+
	Breastfeeding & postpartum women —												

302	Gestational diabetes: Any degree of glucose or carbohydrate intolerance with onset or first recognition during pregnancy	X+				
303	History of gestational diabetes Note: For breastfeeding and postpartum women, with most recent pregnancy.	X	X			X
304	History of preeclampsia Note: For breastfeeding and postpartum women, with most recent pregnancy	X	X			X
311a	History of preterm delivery: As defined as: Preterm: Delivery of an infant born ≤ 36 6/7 weeks gestation Note: For pregnant women, any history of preterm or early term delivery. For breastfeeding and postpartum women, with most recent pregnancy.	X	X			X
311b	History of early term delivery: As defined as: Early Term: Delivery of an infant born ≥37 0/7 and ≤ 38 6/7 weeks' gestation Note: For pregnant women, any history of	X	X			X

	preterm or early term delivery. For breastfeeding and postpartum women, with most recent pregnancy.												
USDA Code	Definition	Preg	gnant	Bre	astfee g	din	In	fant	S	Chil	ldren	Postpa	artum
		I	IV	I	II	I V	I	II	I V	Ш	V	III	VI
312	History of low birth weight infant: ≤5.5 lbs. Note: For breastfeeding and postpartum women, with most recent pregnancy.	X		X									X
321	 History of spontaneous abortion, fetal or neonatal loss: Spontaneous abortion = spontaneous termination at <20 wks. or <500 grams Fetal death = spontaneous termination at ≥20 weeks Neonatal death = death of infant before 28 days of life 												

331	Pregnancy at young age: ≤ 20 years at time of conception. Because actual date of conception is difficult to determine, the applicant's age at the last menstrual period	X+		X +								X+	
		I	IV	I	II	I V	I	II	I V	III	V	III	VI
USDA Code	Definition	Preg	nant	Brea	astfee g	din	In	fant	S	Chil	dren	Postp	artum
321c	Postpartum women — assign risk if: • Most recent pregnancy ended with a spontaneous abortion, a fetal loss <i>or</i> a neonatal death												X
321b	 Breastfeeding women — assign risk if: Most recent pregnancy was a multifetal gestation with ≥1 fetal or neonatal deaths but with 1 or more infants still living 			X									
321a	Pregnant women — assign risk if: • >2 spontaneous abortions <i>or</i> any history of fetal or neonatal death	X											

331a 331b	(LMP) may be used to determine pregnancy before her 21st birthday. LMP before age 16 years LMP at ≥ 16 and ≤ 20 years Note: For breastfeeding and postpartum women, with most recent pregnancy.						
332	Short Interpregnancy Interval: Conception <18 mo. from the date of a live birth to the conception of the subsequent pregnancy. Note: For breastfeeding and postpartum women, with most recent pregnancy.	X	X				X
334	Lack of adequate prenatal care: First prenatal visit ≥13 wks. or inadequate number of visits as follows: Wks. gestation Inadequate if # visits is: 14-21 0 22-29 ≤1 30-31 ≤2 32-33 ≤3	X					

	34+ <4												
USDA Code	Definition	Preg	gnant	Bre	astfee g	din	In	lfant	:s	Chil	dren	Postpa	artum
		I	IV	I	II	I V	I	II	I V	III	V	III	VI
335	Multifetal gestation: More than 1 fetus in a current pregnancy or the most recent pregnancy for breastfeeding and postpartum women	X +		X+									X+
336	Fetal growth restriction: Usually defined as fetal weight <10th percentile for gestational age.	X											
337	History of large for gestational age birth: 9 lbs. Note: For breastfeeding and postpartum women, with most recent pregnancy.	X		X									X
338	Pregnant woman currently breastfeeding	X											
339	History of birth with nutrition related congenital or birth defect: A woman who has given birth to an infant who has a congenital or birth defect linked to	X		X									X

	inappropriate nutrition intake such as inadequate zinc, inadequate folic acid, or excess vitamin A. Includes neural tube defects and cleft palate or lip. Note: For breastfeeding and postpartum women, with most recent pregnancy.												
USDA Code	Definition	Preg	nant	Brea	astfee g	din	In	ıfant	S	Chil	dren	Postpa	artum
		I	IV	I	П	I V	I	II	I V	III	V	III	VI
341	Nutrient deficiency or disease: Any current treated or untreated nutrient deficiency disease which can be the result of penutritional intake, chronic health conditionacute health conditions, medications, alternative metabolism, or a combination of the factors, and can impact the levels of benacronutrients and micronutrients in the boundless but is not limited to: • Protein energy malnutrition • Scurvy			X+			X+			X+			X+

	 Osteomalacia Vitamin K deficiency Pellagra Xerophthalmia Iron Deficiency Rickets Beri beri Hypocalcemia 					
342	Gastrointestinal disorder: Disorders that interfere with the intake, digestion or absorption of nutrients include but are not limited to: • Gastroesophageal reflux disease (GERD). • Peptic ulcer • Post-bariatric surgery • Short bowel syndrome • Inflammatory bowel disease (including ulcerative colitis or Crohn's disease) • Liver disease	X+	X+	X+	X+	X+

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USDA Code	 Pancreatitis Biliary tract disease Definition	Preg	gnant	Brea	astfee g	din	In	ıfant	S	Chil	ldren	Postp	artum
		I	IV	I	II	I V	I	II	I V	III	V	III	VI
343	Diabetes mellitus: A group of metabolic diseases characterized by inappropriate hyperglycemia resulting from defects in insulin secretion, insulin action or both.	X+		X+			X +			X+			X+
344	Thyroid disorders: hyperthyroidism, hypothyroidism, congenital hyperthyroidism, congenital hypothyroidism, postpartum thyroiditis	X		X			X			X			X
345	Hypertension and Prehypertension: Hypertension is defined as high blood pressure which may eventually cause health problems and includes chronic hypertension during pregnancy, preeclampsia, eclampsia, chronic hypertension with superimposed preeclampsia, and gestational hypertension. Prehypertension is defined as being at high	X+		X+			X+			X+			X+

	risk for developing hypertension, based on blood pressure levels.												
USDA Code	Definition	Preg	gnant	Bre	astfee g	din	Ir	ıfant	S	Chil	dren	Postpa	artum
		I	IV	I	II	I V	I	II	I V	Ш	V	III	VI
346	Renal disease: Includes pyelonephritis and persistent proteinuria, but excludes urinary tract infections involving the bladder	X+		X+			X+			X+			X+
347	Cancer: A chronic disease whereby populations of cells have acquired the ability to multiply and spread without the usual biological restraints. Where the current condition or its treatment is severe enough to affect nutritional status.	X+		X+			X+			X+			X+
348	Central nervous system disorders: Conditions which affect energy requirements and may affect the individual's ability to feed self that alter nutritional status metabolically, mechanically, or both. Includes but is not limited to:	X+		X+			X+			X+			X+
	• Epilepsy,												

USDA Code	 Cerebral palsy, Neural tube defects such as spina bifida or myelomeningocele, Parkinson's disease, and Multiple sclerosis (MS). Definition	Preg	gnant	Bre	astfee g	din	In	ıfant	s	Chil	dren	Postpa	artum
		I	IV	I	II	I V	I	II	I V	III	V	Ш	VI
349	Genetic and congenital disorders: Hereditary or congenital condition at birth that causes physical or metabolic abnormality where the current condition alters nutrition status metabolically, mechanically, or both. Includes but is not limited to: • Cleft lip or palate, • Down's syndrome, • Thalassemia major, • Sickle cell anemia (not sickle cell trait), and • Muscular dystrophy.	X+		X+			X+			X+			X+

351		X+	X+	X+	X +		X +
	Inborn error of metabolism: Inheri metabolic disorders caused by a defect in enzymes or their co-factors that metabol protein, carbohydrate, or fat. Inborn errors metabolism (IEM) generally refer to go mutations or gene deletions that a metabolism in the body, including but limited to: • Amino acid disorders • Organic acid metabolism disorders • Fatty acid oxidation disorders • Lysosomal storage diseases • Urea cycle disorders • Carbohydrate disorders • Peroxisomal disorders • Mitochondrial disorders						
352a	Infectious disease- Acute A disease which is characterized by a single or repeated episode of relatively rapid onset and short duration.	X	X	X	X	X	
	Includes but is not limited to:						

	 Pneumonia Meningitis (Bacterial/Viral) Parasitic infections Hepatitis A Bronchitis (≥3 episodes in last 6 mo) Listeriosis Hepatitis E 												
USDA Code	Definition	Preg	gnant	Bre	astfee g	din	In	fant	s	Chil	dren	Postpa	artum
		I	IV	I	II	I V	I	II	I V	III	V	III	VI
352b	Infectious disease- Chronic Conditions likely lasting a lifetime and require long-term management of symptoms. Includes but is not limited to: Hepatitis B Hepatitis C Hepatitis D	X+		X+			X+			X+		X+	

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	HIV AIDS												
353	Food allergies: Food allergies are adverse health effects arising from a specific immune response that occurs reproducibly on exposure to a given food.	X +		X+			X +			X+			X+
354	Celiac disease: An autoimmune disease precipitated by the ingestion of gluten that result in damage to the small intestine and malabsorption of the nutrients from food. Also known as celiac sprue, gluten-sensitive enteropathy, and non-tropical Sprue.	X+		X+			X +			X+			X+
USDA Code	Definition	Pregnant		Breastfeedin g			Ir	fant	S	Chil	ldren	Postp	artum
		I	IV	Ι	II	I V	I	II	I V	Ш	V	III	VI
355	Lactose intolerance: Syndrome of one or more of the following —diarrhea,	X		X			X			X			X
	abdominal pain, flatulence, and/or bloating, that occurs after lactose ingestion.												
356	abdominal pain, flatulence, and/or bloating,	X+		X+			X+			X +			X+

359	Recent major surgery (including C-sections), trauma, or burns: Severe enough to compromise nutritional status. Note: Any occurrence <2 mo. may be self-	X		X			X			X			X
		I	IV	I	II	I V	I	II	I V	III	V	III	VI
USDA Code	Definition	Preg	gnant	Brea	astfee g	din	Ir	ıfant	s	Chil	dren	Postpa	artum
	Note: The CPA may document evidence of disorders.												
	 Anorexia Nervosa (AN) Bulimia Nervosa (BN) Binge-Eating Disorder (BED) 												
	Characterized by severe disturbances in a person's eating behaviors and related thoughts and emotions. They include, but are not limited to:												
358	Use of prescription or over-the-counter drugs or medications that have been shown to interfere with nutrient intake, absorption, distribution, metabolism, or excretion, to an extent that nutritional status is compromised. Eating disorders:	X+		X+									X+

	reported. Occurrences >2 mo. ago must have continued need for nutritional support diagnosed by a physician or a health care provider working under the orders of a physician.					
360	Other medical conditions:	X	X	X	X	X
	Diseases or conditions with nutritional implications that are not included in any of the other medical conditions. The current condition, or treatment for the condition, must be severe enough to affect					
	nutritional status. This includes, but is not limited to:					
	 Juvenile Idiopathic Arthritis (JIA) Systemic Lupus Erythematosus (SLE) Polycystic Ovary Syndrome (PCOS) Cardiovascular Disease Persistent Asthma (moderate or severe) requiring daily medication Cystic Fibrosis 					
361	Mental Illnesses :	X	X		X	X
	"A syndrome characterized by clinically significant disturbance in an individual's cognition, emotion regulation, or behavior that reflects a dysfunction in the					

	psychological, biological, or developmental processes underlying mental functioning. Mental disorders are usually associated with significant distress or disability in social, occupational, or other important activities (1)."						
	Mental illnesses where the current condition, or treatment for the condition may affect nutrition status						
	 Depression Post-Traumatic Stress Disorder (PTSD) Personality Disorders Schizophrenia Anxiety Disorders Obsessive-Compulsive Disorder (OCD) Bipolar Disorders Attention-Deficit/Hyperactivity Disorder (ADHD) 						
362	Developmental delays, sensory or motor delays interfering with the ability to eat: Developmental, sensory or motor disabilities that restrict the ability to chew or swallow food or require tube feeding to	X+	X+	X+	X+		X+

	meet nutritional needs. Includes but is not limited to:												
	Minimal brain function,												
	 Feeding problems due to a developmental disability such as pervasive development disorder (PDD) which includes autism, 												
	Birth injury,												
	Head trauma,												
	Brain damage, and												
	Other disabilities												
USDA Code	Definition	Pre	rnant	Due	astfee	din	Ir	ıfant	-c	Chi		Dogto	artum
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		I	IV	I		I V	I	II	I	III	V	III	VI
363	Pre-Diabetes: Impaired fasting glucose and/or impaired glucose tolerance. These conditions are characterized by hyperglycemia that does not meet the diagnostic criteria for diabetes mellitus.				g	I		<u> </u>	I		1		I

USDA Code	Definition	Preg	gnant	Bre	astfeed g	din	Inf	fants	(Children	Postp	artum
	 Binge drinking: drinks ≥4 drinks within 2 hours. 											
	Breastfeeding and postpartum women — • High risk drinking: Routine consumption of ≥8 drinks per week or ≥4 drinks on any day. (a serving is 1 can of beer, 5 oz. wine, 1 ½ fluid ounces of liquor), or			X								X
372a	Alcohol use: Pregnant women — • Any use	X										
	tobacco to include but not limited to cigarettes, pipes, cigars, electronic nicotine delivery systems (e-cigarettes, vaping devices), hookahs, smokeless tobacco (chewing tobacco, snuff, dissolvables), or nicotine replacement therapies (gums, patches).											

		I	IV	I	II	I V	I	II	I V	III	V	III	VI
372b	 Substance Use: Pregnant women — Any illegal substance use and/or abuse of prescription medications. Any marijuana use in any form. Breastfeeding and postpartum women — Any illegal substance use and/or abuse of prescription medications. Any marijuana use in any form (breastfeeding women only). Note: Tobacco is not considered an illegal drug under this risk code. 	X		X									X
381	 Oral Health Conditions: Oral health conditions include, but are not limited to: Dental caries, often referred to as "cavities" or "tooth decay", Periodontal diseases which is classified by the severity of the disease; gingivitis is a milder and 	X		X			X			X			X

	reversible form while destructive forms are called periodontitis, and • Tooth loss, ineffectively replaced teeth or oral infections which impair the ability to ingest food in adequate quantity or quality. Note: Diagnosed, documented or reported by a physician, dentist or someone working under a physician's orders, or as self-reported by applicant/participant/caregiver.												
USDA Code	Definition	Preg	gnant	Bre	astfee g	din	In	ıfant	S	Chil	dren	Postp	artum
		I	IV	I	II	I V	I	II	I V	III	V	III	VI
382	Fetal Alcohol Spectrum Disorders: A group of conditions that can occur in a person whose mother consumed alcohol during pregnancy.	X+		X+			X+			X+			X+
	FASDs is an overarching phrase that encompasses a range of possible diagnoses, including fetal alcohol syndrome (FAS), partial fetal alcohol syndrome (pFAS), alcohol-												

	related birth defects (ARBD), alcohol- related neurodevelopmental disorder (ARND), and neurobehavioral disorder associated with prenatal alcohol exposure (ND-PAE).												
383	Neonatal Abstinence Syndrome (NAS): NAS is a drug withdrawal syndrome that occurs among drug-exposed (primarily opioid-exposed) infants as a result of the mother's use of drugs during pregnancy. NAS is a combination of physiologic and neurologic symptoms that can be identified immediately after birth and can last up to 6 months after birth.						X+						
USDA Code	Definition	Preg	nant	Bre	astfee g	edin	In	ıfant	S	Chil	ldren	Postp	artum
		I	IV	I	II	I V	I	II	I V	III	V	III	VI
401	Failure to meet <i>Dietary Guidelines for Americans</i> : Based on the individual's estimated energy		X			X					X Onl y ≥2 yrs		X

	basic food groups (grains, fruits, vegetables, milk products, and meat or beans). May be assigned to participants ≥ 2 years old when a complete nutrition assessment has been done and no other medical nutrition risks or dietary risks have been assigned.						
411	Inappropriate nutrition practices for infants: Routine use of feeding practices that may result in impaired nutrient status, disease or health problems. Includes the following practices:						
411a	Primary Nutrient Source Inappropriate: Routinely using a substitute(s) for human milk or FDA-approved iron-fortified formula as the primary nutrient source during the first year of life. Examples of inappropriate substitutes include: • Low iron formula without iron supplementation • Cow's milk, goat's milk, sheep's milk (whole, reduced fat, low-fat, skim); canned evaporated or sweetened condensed milk • Imitation or substitute milks (such				X		

	non-dairy creamer), or other "homemade concoctions."												
USDA Code	Definition	Preg	gnant	Bre	astfee g	edin	In	ıfant	S	Chil	dren	Postp	artum
		I	IV	I	II	I V	Ι	II	I V	III	V	III	VI
411b	Routinely using nursing bottles or cups improperly: Including the following practices:								X				
	Using a bottle to feed fruit juice.												
	 Feeding any sugar-containing fluids, such as soda/soft drinks, gelatin water, corn syrup solutions, and sweetened tea. 												
	 Allowing the infant to fall asleep or be put to bed with a bottle at naps or bedtime. 												
	• Allowing the infant to use the bottle without restriction (e.g., walking around with a bottle) or as a pacifier.												
	• Propping the bottle when feeding.												
	 Allowing an infant to carry around and drink throughout the day from a covered or training cup. 												

	Adding any food (cereal or other solid foods) to the infant's bottle.												
USDA Code	Definition	Preg	gnant	Bre	astfee g	edin	In	ıfant	S	Chil	dren	Postp	artum
		I	IV	I	II	I V	I	II	I V	Ш	V	III	VI
411c	Inappropriate Complementary Foods:								X				
	Early introduction of solid foods: Any food other than human milk or iron-fortified infant formula before 6 months of age.												
	Sugar/corn syrup added to beverage/food/pacifier: Adding sweet agents such as these to any beverage (including water) or prepared food, or used on a pacifier.												
411d	Feeding practices disregard developmental needs:								X				
	Inability to recognize, insensitivity to, or disregarding the infant's cues for hunger and satiety (e.g., forcing an infant to eat a certain type and/or amount of food or beverage or ignoring an infant's hunger cues).												
	Feeding foods of inappropriate consistency,												

	size or shape that puts infant at risk of choking. Not supporting an infant's need for growing independence with self-feeding (e.g., solely spoon-feeding an infant who is able and ready to finger-feed and/or try self-feeding with appropriate utensils). Feeding an infant food with inappropriate textures based on his/her developmental stage (e.g., feeding primarily pureed or liquid foods when the infant is ready and capable of eating mashed, chopped or appropriate finger foods.)												
USDA Code	Definition	Preg	nant	Bre	astfee g	din	In	fant	S	Chil	dren	Postp	artum
		I	IV	I	II	I V	I	II	I V	III	V	III	VI
411e	Potentially contaminated foods: Feeding foods to an infant that could be contaminated with harmful microorganisms including:								X				
	Unpasteurized fruit or vegetable juice;												
	Unpasteurized dairy products or soft cheeses such as feta, Brie, Camembert, blue-veined, and Mexican-style cheese;												

		I	IV	I	II	I V	I	II	I V	III	V	III	VI
USDA Code	Definition	Preg	gnant	Bre	astfee g	din	In	fant	s		dren	Postpa	
	Failure to follow specific instructions accompanying a prescription.												
	Failure to follow manufacturer's dilution instructions (to include stretching formula for household economic reasons).												
411f	Inappropriately diluted formula:								X				
	Donor human milk acquired directly from individuals or the Internet.												
	Consuming honey: Added to liquids or solid foods, used in cooking, as part of processed foods, on a pacifier, etc.												
	Deli meats, hot dogs, and processed meats (must be heated until steaming hot to be safe).												
	Raw vegetable sprouts (alfalfa, clover, bean, and radish); and												
	Raw or undercooked meat, fish, poultry, or eggs;												

	breastfeeding: Scheduled feedings instead of demand feedings. <8 feedings/24 hours if <2 months old						
411h	Diet very low in calories or essential nutrients: Vegan diet				X		
	Macrobiotic diet						
	Other diets very low in calories or essential nutrients.						
411i	Inadequate sanitation resources or practices:				X		
	Limited or no access to a:						
	Safe water supply (documented by appropriate officials)						
	Heat source for sterilization, and/or						
	Refrigerator or freezer for storage.						
	Failure to prepare, handle, and store bottles, storage containers or breast pumps properly; examples include:						

Unsafe practices for human milk include:	
Heating/Thawing in the microwave	
Refreezing	
Adding freshly expressed unrefrigerated human milk to frozen human milk	
Adding freshly pumped chilled human milk to frozen human milk in an amount that is greater than the amount of frozen human milk.	
Feeding thawed refrigerated human milk more than 24 hours after it was thawed.	
Saving human milk from a used bottle for another feeding.	
Failure to clean breast pump per manufacturer's instruction.	
Donor human milk acquired directly from individuals or the Internet.	
Unsafe practices include feeding formula that:	
Storing at room temperature for more than 1 hour.	
Failure to prepare and/or store prepared	

	formula per manufacturer's or physician instructions. Using formula in a bottle one hour after the start of a feeding. Saving formula from a used bottle for another feeding. Failure to clean baby bottle properly												
USDA Code	Definition	Preg	gnant	Bres	astfee g	din	In	l Ifant	S	Chi	ldren	Postpa	artum
		I	IV	I	II	I	I	II	I	III	V	III	VI
		_				V			V		•		V I

	Herbal or botanical supplements, remedies, and teas												
411k	Routinely not providing dietary supplements recognized as essential by national public health policy when an infant's diet alone cannot meet nutrient requirements.								X				
	Inadequate fluoride intake: Infants ≥6 months who are ingesting <0.25 mg of fluoride daily when the water supply contains less than 0.3 ppm fluoride												
	Inadequate vitamin D intake: Any infant (breastfed and non-breastfed) ingesting <1 quart (32 oz.) per day of vitamin D-fortified formula and not taking a supplement of 400 IU vitamin D/day.												
USDA Code	Definition	Preg	nant	Bre	astfee g	din	In	fant	ts	Chil	dren	Postpa	artum
		I	IV	I	II	I V	I	II	I V	Ш	V	Ш	VI

425	Inappropriate nutrition practices for children: Routine use of feeding practices that may result in impaired nutrient status, disease, or health problems. Includes the following practices:						
425a	Routinely feeding inappropriate beverages as the primary milk source. Reduced fat milk before 24 months: Feeding non-fat or reduced-fat milks between 12-24 months, unless allowed by state agency policy for a child for whom overweight or obesity is a concern. Inappropriate imitation or substitute milk: Routine feeding as primary milk source of beverages such as: Sweetened condensed milk Imitation or substitute milks (such as inadequately or unfortified rice- or soybased beverages, non-dairy creamers), or other "homemade concoctions."					X	
425b	Routine use of sugar-containing beverages: Soda/soft drinks Gelatin water					X	

	Corn syrup solutions Sweetened tea												
425c	Routinely using nursing bottles, cups, or pacifiers improperly.										X		
	Using a bottle beyond 14 months of age												
	Other inappropriate use of bottle or cup:												
	Using a bottle to feed fruit juice, diluted cereal or other solid foods.												
	Allowing child to fall asleep or be put to bed with a bottle at naps or bedtime.												
	Allowing the child to use the bottle without restriction (e.g., walking around with a bottle) or as a pacifier.												
	Allowing a child to carry around and drink throughout the day from a covered or training cup.												
USDA Code	Definition	Preg	gnant	Bre	astfee g	edin	In	ıfant	S	Chil	dren	Postp	artum
		I	IV	I	II	I V	I	II	I V	III	V	III	VI
425d	Feeding practices disregard developmental needs:										X		

425e	Potentially contaminated foods: Feeding foods to a child that could be contaminated										X		
		I	IV	I	II	I V	I	II	I V	Ш	V	III	VI
USDA Code	Definition	Preg	gnant	Bre	astfee g	din	In	fant	es .	Chil	dren	Postpa	artum
	Feeding a child foods with inappropriate textures based on his/her developmental stage (e.g., feeding primarily pureed or liquid foods when child is ready and capable of eating mashed, chopped or appropriate finger foods.)												
	Not supporting a child's need for growing independence with self-feeding (e.g., solely spoon-feeding a child who is able and ready to finger-feed and/or try self-feeding with appropriate utensils).												
	Feeding foods of inappropriate consistency, size or shape that puts child at risk of choking.												
	Inability to recognize, insensitivity to, or disregarding cues for hunger and satiety (e.g., forcing child to eat a certain type and/or amount of food or beverage or ignoring a child's hunger cues).												

	with harmful microorganisms including—						
	Unpasteurized fruit or vegetable juice;						
	Unpasteurized dairy products or soft cheeses such as feta, Brie, Camembert, blue-veined, and Mexican-style cheese;						
	Raw or undercooked meat, fish, poultry, or eggs;						
	Raw vegetable sprouts (alfalfa, clover, bean, radish); and						
	Deli meats, hot dogs, and processed meats (must be heated until steaming hot to be safe).						
425f	Diet very low in calories or essential nutrients:					X +	
	Vegan diet						
	Macrobiotic diet						
	Other diets very low in calories or essential nutrients.						
425g	Potentially harmful dietary supplements: Examples of dietary supplements, which when fed in excess of recommended dosage, may be toxic or have harmful consequences:					X	

	Single or multi-vitamins Mineral supplements Herbal or botanical supplements, remedies, and teas												
USDA Code	Definition	Preg	gnant	Bre	astfee g	din	In	ıfant	S	Chil	ldren	Postpa	artum
		I	IV	I	II	I V	I	II	I V	Ш	V	III	VI
425h	Routinely not providing dietary supplements recognized as essential by national public health policy when a child's diet alone cannot meet nutrient requirements.										X		
	Inadequate fluoride intake: Children <36 months ingesting <0.25 mg fluoride/day when the water supply contains												
	<0.3 ppm fluoride Children 36-60 months ingesting <0.50 mg fluoride/day when the water supply contains <0.3 ppm fluoride												
	Inadequate vitamin D intake: Any child ingesting <1 quart (32 oz.) per day of vitamin D-fortified milk or formula and not taking a supplement of 400 IU vitamin												

	D/day.												
425i	Pica: Routine ingestion of non-food items including:										X		
	Ashes												
	Carpet fibers												
	Cigarettes & cigarette butts												
	Clay												
	Dust												
	Foam rubber												
	Paint chips												
	Soil												
	Starch (laundry and cornstarch)												
USDA Code	Definition	Preg	gnant	Bre	astfee g	din	In	fant	s	Chil	dren	Postpa	artum
		I	IV	I	II	I V	I	II	I V	Ш	V	III	VI
427	Inappropriate nutrition practices for women: Routine nutrition practices that may result in impaired nutrient status, disease, or health problems. Includes the following practices:												

					g	ı		1	1				Γ
USDA Code	Definition	Preg	nant	Brea	astfee	din	In	fant	s	Chil	dren	Postp	artum
	Any other diet restricting calories and/or essential nutrients												
	Macrobiotic diet												
	Low-carbohydrate, high-protein diet												
	Strict vegan diet												
427b	Diet very low in calories or essential nutrients: Consuming a diet very low in calories and/or essential nutrients/ or impaired caloric intake or absorption of essential nutrients following bariatric surgery. Examples include:		X+			X +							X +
	Mineral supplements Herbal or botanical supplements, remedies and teas												
	Single or multiple vitamins												
427a	Potentially harmful dietary supplements: Examples of dietary supplements which when ingested in excess of recommended dosages, may be toxic or have harmful consequences:		X			X							X

				V		V		
427c	Pica: Compulsively ingesting non-food items including:	X		X				X
	Ashes							
	Baking soda							
	Burnt matches							
	Carpet fibers							
	Chalk							
	Cigarettes							
	Clay							
	Dust							
	Large quantities of ice and/or freezer frost							
	Paint chips							
	Soil							
	Starch (laundry and cornstarch)							
427d	Inadequate vitamin/mineral supplementation recognized as essential by national public health policy.	X		X				X
	Inadequate folic acid intake: Consumption of <400 mcg of synthetic folic acid from fortified foods and/or supplements daily.							

USDA Code	Inadequate iron supplementation: Pregnant woman consuming <27 mg of iron/day as a supplement. Inadequate iodine intake: Pregnant or breastfeeding woman consuming less than 150 ug of supplemental iodine per day. Definition	Preg	gnant	Bre	astfee g	din	In	ıfant	S	Chil	dren	Postp	artum
		I	IV	I	II	I V	Ι	II	I V	III	V	III	VI
427e	Potentially harmful foods: Pregnant woman ingesting foods that could be contaminated with pathogenic microorganisms including—		X										
	Raw fish or shellfish, including oysters, clams, mussels, and scallops;												
	Refrigerated smoked seafood, unless it is an ingredient in a cooked dish, such as a casserole;												
	Raw or undercooked meat or poultry;												
	Hot dogs, luncheon meats (cold cuts), fermented and dry sausage and other deli- style meat or poultry products unless reheated until steaming hot;												

	Refrigerated pâté or meat spreads; Unpasteurized milk or foods containing it; Soft cheeses such as feta, Brie, Camembert, blue-veined, and Mexican-style cheese such as queso blanco, queso fresco, or Panela unless labeled as made with pasteurized milk; Raw or undercooked eggs or foods containing raw or lightly cooked eggs including certain salad dressings, cookie and cake batters, sauces, and beverages such as unpasteurized eggnog; Raw sprouts (alfalfa, clover, radish); Unpasteurized fruit or vegetable juices.												
USDA Code	Definition	Preg	gnant	Bre	astfee g	din	In	fant	s	Chil	dren	Postp	artum
		I	IV	I	II	I V	I	II	I V	Ш	V	III	VI
428	Dietary risk associated with complementary feeding practices: An infant of child who has begun to or is expected to begin to 1) consume								X O nl		X Onl y		

	complementary foods and beverages, 2) eat independently, 3) be weaned from breast milk or infant formula, or 4) transition from a diet based on infant/toddler foods to one based on the Dietary Guidelines for Americans, is at risk of inappropriate complementary feeding.				y 4- 11 m o		12- 23 mo	
	Infants 4-11 months — Risk may be assigned when a complete nutrition assessment has been done, including 411/inappropriate nutrition practices for infants.							
	Children 12-23 months — Risk may be assigned when a complete nutrition assessment has been done, including 425/inappropriate nutrition practices for children.							
	Note: This risk cannot be used with other medical and dietary risk criteria.							
501	Possibility of regression: A participant who has previously been certified eligible for WIC may be considered to be at	2	X	X		X		X

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USDA Code	nutritional risk in the next certification period if the CPA determines there is a possibility of regression in nutritional status without the benefits that WIC provides. The use of this risk must be limited to one time following a certification period. Note: This risk cannot be used with other medical and dietary risk criteria. Definition	Prog	nant	Rro	astfee	din	Iv	ıfant	6	Chil	dren	Postp	artum
OSDA Code	Demintion	1102	gnant	Die	g	um	11	114111	.5	Ciii	luren	1 Ostpa	ai tuiii
		I	IV	I	II	I V	I	II	I V	III	V	III	VI
502	Out-of-state transfer, risk unknown: Person with valid VOC document from another state, specific nutrition risk unknown.	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X
601	Breastfeeding mother of infant at nutritional risk: A breastfeeding woman whose breastfed infant has been determined to be at nutritional risk.												
601a	Breastfeeding mother of Priority I infant	X		X									
601b	Breastfeeding mother of Priority II infant				X								

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601d	Breastfeeding mother of Priority IV infant		X			X							
602	Breastfeeding complications/mother: A breastfeeding mother with any of the following complications or potential complications for breastfeeding:												
602a	Severe breast engorgement	X		X									
602b	Recurrent plugged ducts	X		X									
USDA Code	Definition	Preg	gnant	Bre	astfee g	edin	Iı	nfant	s	Chil	dren	Postp	artum
		I	IV	I	II	I V	I	II	I V	Ш	V	III	VI
602c	Mastitis (fever or flu-like symptoms with localized breast tenderness)	X		X									
602d	Flat or inverted nipples	X		X									
602e	Cracked, bleeding or severely sore nipples	X		X									
602f	Age 40 years	X		X									
602g	Failure of milk to come in by 4 days postpartum,=	X		X									

602h	Tandem nursing (breastfeeding two siblings who are not twins)	X	X					
603	Breastfeeding complications/infant: A breastfed infant with any of the following complications or potential complications for breastfeeding:							
603a	Jaundice			X				
603b	Weak or ineffective suck			X				
603c	Difficulty latching onto mother's breast			X				
603d	Inadequate stooling (for age, as determined by a physician or other health care professional), and/or <6 wet diapers/day			X				
701	Mother on WIC while pregnant or mother not on WIC but was at nutrition risk: An infant <6 months of age whose mother was a WIC participant during pregnancy OR whose mother's medical records document that the woman was at nutritional risk during pregnancy because of detrimental or abnormal nutritional conditions detectable by biochemical or anthropometric measurements or other documented nutritionally related medical conditions.				X < 6 m o			

	Note: Medical conditions do not include dietary risks.												
USDA Code	Definition	Preg	gnant	Bre	astfee g	edin	In	ıfant	s	Chil	ldren	Postp	artum
		I	IV	I	II	I V	I	II	I V	III	V	III	VI
702	Breastfeeding infant of mother at nutritional risk: Breastfeeding infant of woman at nutritional risk.												
702a	Breastfed infant of mother at nutrition risk Priority I						X						
702ь	Breastfed infant of mother at nutrition risk Priority II							X					
702d	Breastfed infant of mother at nutrition risk Priority IV								X				
801	Homelessness: Lacks a fixed and regular nighttime residence; or whose primary nighttime residence is:		X			X			X		X		X
	A supervised publicly or privately operated shelter (including a welfare hotel, a congregate shelter, or a shelter for victims of domestic violence) designed to provide												

	temporary living accommodations; An institution that provides a temporary resident for individuals intended to be institutionalized; A temporary accommodation of not more than 365 days in the residence of another individual; or A public or private place not designed for, or ordinarily used as, a regular sleeping accommodation for human beings.												
USDA Code	Definition	Preg	nant	Bre	astfee g	din	Ir	ıfant	S	Chil	dren	Postp	artum
		I	IV	I	II	I V	I	II	I V	Ш	V	III	VI
802	Migrancy: Member of a family which contains at least one individual whose principal employment is in agriculture on a seasonal basis, who has been so employed within the last 24 mo., and who establishes, for the purposes of such employment, a temporary abode.		X			X			X		X		X
901	Recipient of abuse: An individual who has experienced physical, sexual, emotional, economic,		X			X			X		X		X

frigh	sychological maltreatment that may nten, intimidate, terrorize, manipulate, humiliate, blame,					
inju	re, and/or wound the individual.					
repo fami work appr	experience of abuse may be self- orted by the individual, an individual's ily member, or reported by a social ker, healthcare provider, or other ropriate personnel. Types of abuse want to the WIC					
1 1	ulation include, but are not limited to, following:					
	 Domestic violence: abuse committed by a current or former family or household member or intimate partner. Intimate partner violence (IPV): a form of domestic violence committed by a current or former intimate partner (i.e., spouse, boyfriend/girlfriend, dating partner, or ongoing sexual partner) that may include physical violence, sexual violence, stalking, and/or psychological aggression (including coercive tactics). Child abuse and/or neglect: any act 					

	or failure to act that results in harm to a child or puts a child at risk of harm. Child abuse may be physical (including shaken baby syndrome), sexual, or emotional abuse or neglect of an infant or child under the age of 18 by a parent, caretaker, or other person in a custodial role (such as a religious leader, coach, or teacher).												
USDA Code	Definition	Preg	gnant	Bre	astfee g	din	Ir	ıfant	s	Chil	dren	Postp	artum
		I	IV	Ι	II	I V	I	II	I V	III	V	III	VI
902	Woman or infant/child of primary caregiver with limited ability to make appropriate feeding decisions and/or prepare food. Examples may include individuals who are: 17 years of age,		X			X			X		X		X
	Mentally disabled/delayed and/or have a mental illness such as clinical depression, Physically disabled to a degree which restricts or limited food preparation												

	abilities, Currently using or having a history of abusing alcohol or other drugs, or Intellectual disability Note: The primary caregiver is defined as												
	the person responsible for taking care of the infant/child and for making the feeding decisions or preparing meals in that household. This person is not necessarily the mother, guardian or adoptive parent of that infant/child.												
USDA Code	Definition	Preg	nant	Bre	astfee g	din	Infants		s	Childre		Postp	artum
		I	IV	I	II	I V	I	II	I V	III	V	III	VI
903	Foster care: Entering the foster care system during the previous 6 mo. OR moving from one foster care home to another foster care home during the previous 6 mo.		X			X			X		X		X
904	Environmental tobacco smoke exposure: Environmental tobacco smoke (ETS) exposure is defined (for WIC eligibility	X		X			X			X			X

purposes) as exposure to smoke						
from tobacco products inside enclosed areas, like the home, place of child care, etc. ETS is also known as						
secondhand, passive, or involuntary smoke (1). The ETS definition also includes the exposure to the aerosol						
from electronic nicotine delivery systems						

Best Practices

When an applicant self-reports a diagnosis, it is not necessary to obtain documentation of that diagnosis from a physician or psychologist but should prompt the CPA to validate the presence of the condition by asking more pointed questions related to that diagnosis and treatment plan.

There may also be instances when it is appropriate to request pertinent medical or nutrition information to support the nutrition risk determination and to assist WIC in providing an appropriate nutritional plan of care. Reports or documentation of diagnosis are also acceptable from a physician or someone working under the physician's orders, including nurses and physician's assistants. Non-traditional health care providers such as shamans, acupuncturists, chiropractors, or holistic health advisors are not considered physicians for purposes of this policy. It is not necessary to review or validate referral diagnoses against the definitions listed in this policy.

If a registered, licensed dietitian (RD, LD) certifies the high-risk participant and writes the nutrition care plan, this contact meets the policy requirement for one individual contact by a RD, LD The RD, LD should determine the appropriate level of service for the second education contact (RD, LD or another CPA) and schedule it accordingly.

WIC CPAs can and should manually assign high-risk status for participants based on their professional judgment.

Certification, Eligibility and Coordination of Services

August 2025

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