

SAMPSON COUNTY HEALTH DEPARTMENT

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Program: WIC Program Update
Contact: Erin Ellis
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The USDA's Food and Nutrition Service (FNS) has granted approval to the North Carolina WIC Program's request for a physical presence waiver through May 31, 2020. The approval was granted due to the State of Emergency that was declared by the Governor on March 10, 2020.

The approval to waive the physical presence requirement includes the ability to defer anthropometric and bloodwork requirements necessary to determine nutritional risk for the period the physical presence waiver is in effect. This means that children are not required to be present during WIC certifications during this state of emergency.

Effective immediately:

- a. Children under the age of 17 are not allowed in the health department. This is done to protect the health and safety of our children.
- b. Due to this waiver, certifications will be completed without the presence of the child. This means that we will not need to do heights, weights, and hemoglobin.
- c. Re-certifications can now be completed over the phone. We ask that clients call and they will be assisted.
- d. Clients that need to come into the facility will need to call for appointments. This will allow us the ability to control the traffic in and out of the health department.
- e. Walk-ins will be accepted for pick-ups, formula change and breast pumps, however this may be completed over the phone.
- f. Maternal/breastfeeding clients will also be seen by appointments.

If you have an appointment and you or anyone in your family has a fever, cough, or difficulty breathing, please call us to reschedule your appointment.

Our WIC office will continue to serve our clients while protecting the health of our WIC participants. Most of our services are available by phone and we ask that you utilize this service. Please contact us at 910-592-1131 ext. 4201.