

Local Monitoring and Evaluation Reviews and the Nutrition Education and Evaluation Plan (NEP) and NEP Evaluation

I. Evaluating Nutrition Education Classes:

- a. Each class that is new to the WIC clinic must be formally evaluated one of the first times it is taught. This policy applies to classes available through the state office as well.
- b. The purpose is to determine if the class is relevant and understandable by the WIC population in that clinic area. If the class is not appropriate for the WIC participants, the nutrition class preceptor should select another class and note this in the class file.
- c. The evaluation must include:
 - i. Evaluation of the class by a WIC health professional (instructor).
 - ii. Evaluation of the class by a participant.
 - iii. Class evaluations must be kept in the class file and will be reviewed at the management evaluation visit. State forms are available for use.

II. Nutrition Education Materials:

- a. Education materials are available through the state office for all categories of participants.
- b. These can be accessed through SharePoint under the Nutrition tab.
- c. A list of current nutrition education handouts can be accessed through SharePoint under the Nutrition tab.
- d. A list of nutrition education handouts to recycle can be accessed through SharePoint under the Nutrition tab.
- e. These include lesson plans, brochures (handouts), self-paced modules, bulletin boards, and additional nutrition education materials.
- f. Most pamphlets are available in Spanish and English.
- g. Most materials from the state office are produced at a low literacy level and are therefore appropriate for participants with limited reading skills.
- h. Nutrition education materials older than five years are not approved for use in WIC. Agencies should use current materials on SharePoint and the most recent UCI order.

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~~i. Order forms for printed materials may be obtained through SharePoint for clinic forms, pamphlets, and books.~~

~~j. Nutrition education materials may also be obtained through the WIC Works resource system, FNIC and USDA.~~

~~III. Evaluating Nutrition Education Materials.~~

~~a. All materials developed locally and used for participant education must be evaluated and approved to use by the state office. This includes materials obtained from other community health agencies (e.g. American Heart Association, American Cancer Society, American Diabetes Association, etc.). The state office will work with the local agency to revise locally created materials, if needed, and once materials are approved to use by the state office, they will be posted on SharePoint for all agencies to use as needed.~~

~~b. Resources for creating nutrition education materials, such as the CDC "Simply Put" guide are posted on SharePoint under the Nutrition tab.~~

~~IV.I. Local Management Evaluation Review.~~

~~a. Local Management Evaluation Review of Nutrition and Breastfeeding areas will be conducted annually by local agency staff to ensure that services provided are safe, effective, and in compliance with WIC Federal regulations.~~

~~b. State staff will support local staff in developing their management evaluation system.~~

~~a.i. Examples of local management review forms are on SharePoint under the WIC Forms tab, Operations & Administration Forms section, Management Evaluation (ME) Forms.~~

~~b.a. State staff will support local staff in developing their management evaluation system.~~

~~c. Results of these reviews will be submitted annually to the state office to be included with the Nutrition Education and Evaluation Plan (NEP).~~

~~V.II. Nutrition Education Plan (NEP) and NEP and Evaluation Plan (NEP).~~

~~a. The Nutrition Education Plan (NEP) and NEP evaluation is mandated by federal regulations and must be completed yearly. 7 CFR 246.11(b) – The NEP must be designed to achieve 2 broad goals:~~

~~i. Emphasize the relationship between nutrition, physical activity, and health, with special emphasis on the nutritional needs of pregnant,~~

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postpartum, and breastfeeding women, infants, and children under five years of age. Raise awareness about the dangers of using drugs and other harmful substances during pregnancy and while breastfeeding.

- ii. Assist the individual who is at nutritional risk in improving health status, achieving a positive change in dietary and physical activity habits, and preventing nutrition-related problems through optimal use of the WIC supplemental foods and other nutritious foods. This is to be taught in the context of the ethnic, cultural, and geographic preferences of the participant, and with consideration for any educational and environmental limitations they experience.

b. The NEP requires at least 1 nutrition and 1 breastfeeding promotion and support SMART goal.

c. An evaluation of the breastfeeding peer counseling program (BFPC) and the BFPC budget must be completed and submitted with the NEP annually.

d. The WIC director should complete the NEP with at least 1 registered dietitian and the breastfeeding coordinator in their agency.

- i. The WIC director may be both the registered dietitian and the breastfeeding coordinator based on how the agency is staffed.

e. The completed NEP, NEP Evaluation, BFPC evaluation, and BFPC budget must be sent to the state nutrition coordinator by January 31 each year.

f. The state nutrition coordinator and state nutrition team will review the submitted documents and provide the local agency with a letter of approval, or a request for more information, within 60 days.

- i. If more information is requested, the local agency must provide a response within 2 weeks.

ii. Notification of official state-office approval will be sent to the local WIC director after review.

a. The required components of the NEP include all of the following:

- i. Agency assessment worksheet
- ii. Evaluation of the three goals that the agency/clinic set during the prior fiscal year,
- iii. Three (3) measurable nutrition goals based on the results of the Needs Assessment, and
- iv. At least one goal must focus on breastfeeding promotion and support.
- v. The goals should be realistic and measurable.
- vi. Any other questions included in the NEP worksheets as determined by the state agency; the questions may vary from year to year.

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~~Evaluation of breastfeeding program goals, including budget for Peer Counselor Program and annual evaluation.~~

~~b. The RD should coordinate the preparation of the NEP, in conjunction with the WIC administrator and breastfeeding coordinator.~~

~~i. Please indicate who prepared the document.~~

~~ii. The document should cover information from January 1st – December 31st.~~

~~iii. Send the document to the State WIC Nutrition Coordinator.~~

~~c. Upon receipt of the NEP:~~

~~i. The state nutrition coordinator and state registered dietitian team will review.~~

~~ii. The state nutrition coordinator will provide the local agency/clinic with a letter of approval or a request for more information within two months. If more information is requested, the local agency/clinic must then provide a response no later than two weeks from the date of request.~~

~~iii. Once all clarifications have been made, an official approval letter will be sent to the local WIC director.~~

~~VI. Teaching Nutrition Education~~

~~Teachers include qualified CPAs and CAs, who have met the following guidelines.~~

~~a. CPAs may teach when:~~

~~i. The nutrition preceptor, the local clinic registered dietitian or a state agency registered dietitian evaluates them once a year.~~

~~ii. Documentation of this evaluation is completed on the Teacher Evaluation form and must be kept on file.~~

~~b. CAs may teach when:~~

~~i. They have completed all appropriate modules:~~

~~a. Laboratory~~

~~b. Basic Nutrition~~

~~ii. Training for a new class has been completed by the RD. The classes for which the CA is approved are documented in the employee file.~~

~~iii. They have been observed and evaluated by an RD the first time each new class is taught, with documentation completed on the Teacher's Evaluation form, which is kept on file.~~

~~iv. The nutrition preceptor, the local clinic registered dietitian or a state agency registered dietitian evaluates them at least once each year.~~

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