

## Feb-Mar-Apr 2013

### EBT Updates

#### WIC EBT Pilot and Expansion Plans

Ohio WIC is planning busily for statewide implementation of Electronic Benefits Transfer (EBT), which will replace the paper coupons that WIC participants currently use. With EBT, WIC participants use a "smartcard" containing a microchip onto which WIC benefits have been loaded for making their purchases.

Although we are awaiting USDA's final approval of our pilot and expansion plans, we expect to pilot EBT in Licking County beginning in spring of 2014, and then expand statewide beginning in spring of 2015. We will expand EBT in phases, and by retailer region. Once we have final approval on our pilot and expansion plans, we will provide you with a specific timetable.

#### Preparing for WIC EBT Implementation

It is not too soon for you to be taking steps to prepare for EBT implementation! For those of you with Electronic Cash Register (ECR) systems, we recommend that you contact your ECR service provider and/or IT staff and start talking about upgrading or modifying your systems to operate WIC EBT. Technical information specific to WIC EBT can be accessed from the following USDA Food and Nutrition Service webpages:

1. <http://www.fns.usda.gov/wic/EBT/operatingrules-implemguide.htm>  
This links you to a page titled "WIC Electronic Benefits Transfer (EBT)" where you will find the following:
  - WIC EBT Operating Rules (12-21-10)
  - WIC EBT Technical Implementation Guide (3-9-12). *Please note, however, that this version is to be replaced very soon by a version dated 9-20-12.*
2. [http://www.fns.usda.gov/apd/Library/WIC\\_EBt\\_docs.htm](http://www.fns.usda.gov/apd/Library/WIC_EBt_docs.htm)  
This links you to a page titled "WIC EBT Document Library" where, under "ANSI Standards for WIC," you may access the following standards:
  - X9.108 *(For reference purposes only. This standard is no longer in place but will be re-opened and revised in the near future.)*
  - X9.93

For vendors without ECR systems, we will be in contact with you to discuss alternative solutions.

#### WIC UPC Database

In a letter dated September 10, 2012, we notified all of our authorized vendors of the availability of our Ohio WIC-approved Universal Product Code (UPC) database, and provided instructions on how to access it. We also conducted a survey at that time to determine how soon you might be able to incorporate the database into your cash register systems.

Our Vendor Specialists will soon begin following up with you to provide instructions on the use of the database, to confirm the cash register information we have on file for you, and to

obtain any missing survey information.

We encourage your implementation of the database as soon as practicable as it will be required for EBT. If you never received the UPC database access instructions, or would like this information sent again, please contact your Vendor Specialist at his or her direct number, or 1-800-282-3435.

**ECR Systems Certified for Offline WIC EBT**

Listed below are the ECR systems that are certified for operating offline WIC EBT as of October 2012. We will keep you apprised of any updates to this list. Please share this information with your ECR service providers and/or IT staff.

<b>Certified Systems 10/12</b>			
ACR - H	Catapult	CRS ISS45 v7	FTS Cygnus
GBT POS <sub>e</sub> Link	IBM - W	IBM ACE	IBM ACE - K
IBM SA - A	IBM SA - S	LOC SMS	NCR - B
NCR - H	NCR - S	NCR - T	NCR ACS IR
NDG Mobile Market	PoS Designer LE	PoS Designer XL	RORC viPOS
Stornext ISS45 v7	Stornext ISS45 v8	Sweda Aurora	Torex ISIS

**Notice to Save-A-Lot Retailers**

Please direct any questions you may have about your systems and WIC EBT to:

**Eric Hunn, Electronic Payments, Save-A-Lot**  
**100 Corporate Office Drive, Earth City, MO, 63045**  
**Office: (314) 264-9079**  
**Fax: 1-855-328-5251**  
**Email: [eric.v.hunn@savealot.com](mailto:eric.v.hunn@savealot.com)**

This applies to both corporate and independent Save-A-Lot stores.