

New Hampshire WIC Policy & Procedure Manual

Chapter 8 CERTIFICATION, ELIGIBILITY & COORDINATION OF SERVICES B. Nutrition Risk Determination, Documentation, and Priority Assignment

Priority Assignment

Purpose	Each nutrition risk criteria is assigned a priority to ensure participants are provided services based on their level of need. In the event of a waiting list, the priority would be utilized for caseload management.
Policy	The WIC Program has six participant priority assignments, which reflect a health or dietary condition. The priority assignment shall be used in the event of a waiting list for filling vacancies as they become available at a local agency.
Authority	CFR 246.7(e)(4)
Procedure	After a thorough nutrition and health assessment, the nutritionist shall assign all the appropriate risk criteria using the WIC Risk Criteria. Agencies shall use the most current NH WIC risk daily sheets provided by the State Agency.

Breastfeeding dyads may require manual assignment of priority in order to match their priority level. A breastfeeding mother and infant shall be placed in the highest priority level for which either is qualified for. (ie: A priority 2 breastfeeding infant with a priority 1 breastfeeding mother is assigned risk 702, to make the infant a priority 1 and match the mother. The mother is not assigned risk criteria 601 because she is already a priority 1, based the existing risk criteria assigned.)

The NH WIC Program Nutrition Risk Priority System

Priority 1: Pregnant women, breastfeeding women, and infants at nutritional risk as demonstrated by hematological or anthropometric measurements, or other documented nutritionally related medical conditions which demonstrate the need for supplemental foods.

Priority 2: Except those infants who qualify for Priority 1, all infants up to six months of age born to a WIC mother who participated during pregnancy, and infants up to six months of age born to women who were not certified during pregnancy but whose medical records document that they were at nutritional risk during pregnancy due to nutritional conditions detectable by biochemical or anthropometric measurements or other documented nutritionally related medical conditions which demonstrated the person's need for supplemental foods. Breastfeeding women of a priority 2 infant.

Priority 3: Children at nutritional risk as demonstrated by hematological or anthropometric measurements or other conditions that demonstrate the child's need for supplemental foods.

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Priority 4: Pregnant women, breastfeeding women, and infants at nutritional risk because of an inadequate dietary pattern, or other conditions that demonstrate the need for supplemental foods, including homelessness.

Priority 5: Children at nutritional risk because of an inadequate dietary pattern, including homelessness.

Priority 6: Postpartum women at nutritional risk as demonstrated by hematological or anthropometric measurements or other conditions that demonstrate the need for supplemental foods, including homelessness.

Exception No exceptions