



*Types of WIC  
funding*

WIC is a categorical program funded by the United States Department of Agriculture (USDA) with strong financial accountability, and strict rules attached to the use of WIC funds. The Oregon WIC program receives two distinct kinds of funds, for *food* and for *Nutrition Services and Administration (NSA)*.

Food funds are spent by WIC participants at the grocery store or pharmacy. Food funds come from the federal WIC grant and rebates received on bid infant formula bought by WIC participants.

NSA funds are spent at the state and local level for staff, rent, educational materials, equipment, overhead, and all other costs involved in delivering WIC services to participants. In Oregon, WIC program service funds come entirely from the federal grant and local contributions.

*Distribution,  
accountability*

The Oregon WIC program distributes food and NSA funds to local WIC programs using a finding formula, as described in ♦305. Most Financial accounting and reconciliation at the local program level are focused on NSA funds. Much of the fiscal reporting required of local programs is done by local agency fiscal staff. Assuring that WIC funds are used to fund WIC services is important. The better the working relationship and communication between fiscal and program staff, the better the accountability of the program.

USDA has strict criteria for food budget control. Managing WIC caseloads to spend food money available is a complex responsibility, requiring close management and cooperation between local and state WIC staff and administration. ★