



**Farm Direct Nutrition Program (FDNP)
and WIC Fruit & Veggie Vouchers:
Frequently Asked Questions For Banks and Credit Unions**



Who can deposit or cash Farm Direct checks and WIC Fruit & Veggie Vouchers?

State authorized farmers, with an established account at your financial institution, will be depositing or cashing Farm Direct checks and WIC Fruit & Veggie vouchers.

What will these checks and vouchers look like?

See reverse side for pictures of Farm Direct and WIC Fruit & Veggie checks/vouchers. Authorized farmers are assigned a 4-digit ID number they are required to stamp on the face of each Farm Direct check and WIC Fruit & Veggie voucher. **These checks are legitimate, negotiable instruments and will be honored by the Oregon State Treasury.**

Will banks and credit unions need to verify that farmers have stamped the face of each Farm Direct check or WIC Fruit & Veggie voucher in the box provided?

No, it is the farmer's responsibility to stamp each check and voucher with their official 4-digit ID number. They receive their official stamp once they are authorized by the State. Authorized farmers are also instructed to endorse each check and voucher on the reverse side prior to cashing/depositing. Their uniquely assigned ID number is also registered with the banking clearinghouse where the checks and vouchers are routed from your institution.

Will our clients who are authorized farmers separate Farm Direct checks and WIC Fruit & Veggie vouchers from other checks they may be cashing/depositing?

Yes, authorized farmers have been instructed to separate their Farm Direct checks and WIC Fruit & Veggie vouchers from other checks, to assist their financial institutions in processing and to make it easier to waive fees that may normally be charged for a specific account. Farmers are encouraged to communicate with their financial institutions if they plan to bring in checks, so that the banks/credit unions are aware of specific account needs. Farmers are also strongly encouraged to deposit their Farm Direct checks on a frequent basis during the season, starting June 1, 2010 and they have until November 30, 2010 to deposit. WIC Fruit & Veggie vouchers need to be deposited within a specified quarter, as the program is offered year-round.

Is there a way to find out which farmers are authorized and may bring in their Farm Direct checks and WIC Fruit & Veggie Vouchers?

Yes, the Oregon Department of Agriculture lists authorized farmers on their website at: http://oregon.gov/ODA/ADMD/farm_direct.shtml

Or you may call the Oregon Department of Agriculture, Ag Development and Marketing Division: 503-872-6600.