

When a breastfeeding woman presents with a special breastfeeding situation, this Job Aid may help with determining whether she is eligible for WIC, her category, and the benefits she is eligible to receive. If a special situation arises that is not listed below, contact your WIC Coordinator.

### Birth mother and infant are living apart (adoption, foster care)

- ◆ A birth mother who is providing breast milk for the infant, even though separated from the infant, may qualify for WIC as a breastfeeding woman if the following criteria are met:
  - The infant is enrolled on WIC
  - The infant’s adopted or foster mother is not on WIC as a breastfeeding woman
  - The birth mother meets the eligibility requirements of income, residency, and nutritional risk
  - The birth mother is not receiving compensation for her breast milk
- ◆ If the birth mother *is not* breastfeeding, she may still qualify for WIC as a non-breastfeeding postpartum woman if the eligibility requirements of income, residency, and nutritional risk are met.

TWIST Documentation	Food Package Assignment
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>● Link birth mother to the breastfeeding infant</li> <li>● Make note in record that mother is living apart from infant</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>● Assign the WBN food package if the mother is providing some breast milk for the infant</li> <li>● Assign the WN food package if the mother is not breastfeeding</li> </ul>

### Birth mother and non-birth mother are both breastfeeding the infant and are living apart (adoption, foster care)

- ◆ The non-birth mother must be breastfeeding and meet the eligibility requirements of income, residency, and nutritional risk in order to qualify for WIC.
- ◆ If *both* the non-birth mother and the birth mother are breastfeeding, and the birth mother is providing some breast milk for the infant (even though separated from the infant), the birth mother may still be considered for eligibility as a ***non-breastfeeding*** postpartum woman. Although she is technically breastfeeding, only *one* woman can be certified on WIC as a breastfeeding woman.

- ◆ If *both* the non-birth mother and the birth mother are certified on WIC, the infant may be claimed in only one woman’s household for determining family size and income eligibility.
- ◆ The infant is not required to live with the non-birth breastfeeding woman.

TWIST Documentation	Food Package Assignment
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>● Link breastfeeding infant to the woman categorized as the WIC breastfeeding mother</li> <li>● Document the other mother’s ID number in the WIC Notes of each record to link them</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>● Assign the WE food package to the non-birth breastfeeding woman</li> <li>● Assign the ZN food package to the breastfeeding baby</li> <li>● Assign the WN food package to the non-breastfeeding woman (birth mother)</li> </ul>

### **Birth mother and non-birth mother are both breastfeeding the infant and live in the same household**

Only *one* woman in the household may be certified as a breastfeeding woman.

- ◆ Since the non-birth mother cannot be on WIC as a postpartum woman (she was never pregnant), she must be certified as the breastfeeding woman and the birth mother will be certified as the non-breastfeeding postpartum woman (even though she is breastfeeding).
- ◆ The length of the certifications will be determined by the age of the infant. As with birth mothers, a non-birth mother’s status as a breastfeeding woman ends when she stops nursing the infant at least one time per day or at the infant’s first birthday, whichever comes first.
- ◆ Both women are to be offered second nutrition education, breastfeeding support, the correct food package for her category and referral to a lactation specialist, if appropriate.
- ◆ The two mothers will be enrolled and certified in *separate* families in TWIST and the infant will be in the family with the breastfeeding woman, in order to match their categories.
- ◆ Since the two mothers actually do live in the same household, document the same household size and same income in both records.
- ◆ Complete the certification for the non-birth breastfeeding woman just as you would for the birth mother with these exceptions:

- On the Medical Data screen, enter **999** for “Total Weight Gain, Pregnancy Just Completed”.
  - On the Health History questionnaire, enter **one** for the question “For the pregnancy just completed, how many babies were delivered?” even though she did not give birth.
  - Document the other mother’s ID number in the WIC Notes of each record to link them.
- ◆ Assign the WE food package to the non-birth breastfeeding woman, and the Z food package to the breastfeeding baby. Assign the non-breastfeeding woman (birth mother) the WN food package. See ◆710—Breastfeeding: Definition, Promotion and Support Standards, and ◆769—Assigning WIC Food Packages for further information.

TWIST Documentation	Food Package Assignment
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Link breastfeeding infant to WIC breastfeeding woman (non-birth mother)</li> <li>• Enroll and certify the two mothers in separate families in TWIST</li> <li>• Enroll infant in the family with the WIC breastfeeding woman</li> <li>• Document the same household size and same income in both records</li> <li>• Certification of the non-birth breastfeeding woman:                      Medical Data Screen                      Enter 999 for “Total Weight Gain, Pregnancy Just Completed”                      Health History Questionnaire Enter one for the question “For the pregnancy just completed, how many babies were delivered?” even though she did not give birth</li> <li>• Document the other mother’s ID number in the WIC Notes of each record to link them</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Assign the WE food package to the non-birth breastfeeding woman</li> <li>• Assign the Z food package to the breastfeeding baby</li> <li>• Assign the non-breastfeeding woman (birth mother) the WN food package.</li> </ul> <p>See ◆769—Assigning WIC Food Packages for further information</p>

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