



Women, Infants and Children Program
Utah Department of Health
288 North 1460 West, PO Box 141013
Salt Lake City, Utah 84114-1013

INFORMATION MEMO

Memo #: 2012-4-I

Date: 11/23/11

Subject: Soy based beverage issuance

To: All Local WIC Directors and Local WIC Clinic Staff

From: Chris Furner, Program Manager

Soy based beverage for children with documentation has been approved by USDA. Please review this policy with your staff, from the FY 2012 Policy and Procedures Manual, Section H pages 6 and 16, it states:

IX. Special Food Letter

- a. The Standard Special Food Letter is to be used when the CPA/RD determines that the issuance of 5.5-6oz full strength juice, 46-oz tomato or vegetable juice, calcium-fortified juice, cranberry juice, General Mills Rice Chex, or soy-based beverage is justified for the participant.*

XI. Soy based beverage

- a. Soy based beverage may be authorized for:*
 - i. Children over one year of age.*
 - ii. Only when its need has been determined with a medical diagnosis and a Formula and Food Authorization Form signed by a state licensed prescriptive authority.*
 - iii. Participant needs to receive a Standard Special Food Letter.*
 - iv. The authorized brands of soy based beverage include:*
 - 1. 8th Continent Original (red label)*
 - 2. 8th Continent Vanilla (yellow label, no fat-free or light)*
 - 3. Great Value Original Soymilk (red label, no organic)*

4. *Pacific Natural Foods Ultra Soy Plain*
5. *Pacific Natural Foods Ultra Soy Vanilla*

b. Soy based beverage is not allowed for women.

According to the federal regulation, "Soy based beverage may be substituted for milk, with medical documentation (in Utah: FAFAF) for children in Food Package IV on a quart for quart basis up to the total maximum allowance of milk (16 quarts).

The soy based beverage has been activated in the VISION Food Package Grid and either quarts or half gallons may be selected by highlighting the milk row and clicking on the far right of the row to open the drop down list for milk substitutions.

After selecting the soy based beverage in the food package grid (either quarts or half gallons depending on the availability of these sizes within your area) print the attached Special Food Letter and the attached pictorial handout of approved beverages and provide them to the WIC participant. These may be printed on one page as front and back.

Please remember that the availability of these approved soy based beverages will be limited. Currently we estimate that these beverages are available at only 30% of vendors throughout the state. Thus, the Local Vendor Coordinators may be helpful in identifying where these products are stocked in your area.

If you have any questions, call a state Registered Dietitian for assistance.