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**Purpose** Describe the system for issuing an RFA for a WIC Local Agency

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**Request for Application** The State Agency may issue a request for applications (RFA) for the provision of a WIC local agency in the event the need arises.

1. Applications in response to the RFA will be competitive, with consideration given to both currently participating and non-participating local agencies.
2. A needs assessment, including public input, will be conducted as part of developing each RFA.
3. Each RFA will be tailored to solicit applications which address the specific needs of the population in the area.
4. The RFA will meet all the requirements for notification of potential applicants described in 246.5(d) (2).
5. The RFA will solicit all information needed to make the determinations described in 246.5(c) (1) & (2) and 246.5(d) (1).
6. The RFA process will be coordinated with Department of Health and Human Services planning efforts for the provision of other public health services for women, infants and children.

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**Application Processing** Applications received in response to the RFA will be processed in accordance with the timelines found in the procedure “Unsolicited Applications” earlier in this section.

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**Selection of Agencies** Selection will be based on:

1. Ability of the applicant to meet the priorities and requirements established in the RFA.
2. The applicants’ relative ranking in the local agency priority system, described in 246.5(d) (1).