
Purpose To provide guidance on the provision of WIC benefits for persons residing in institutions.

Definition of Institution “Institution” means any 24 hour residential accommodation that provides meal service, except private residences, domestic abuse shelters and homeless facilities.

Institutions include facilities where the:

- Applicant has been placed by the state or other entity for a specified length of time.
- Placement is voluntary and the applicant may leave at any time.

Examples of institutions include:

- Penitentiaries
- Jails
- Mental institutions
- Group Homes
- Rehabilitation facilities
- Care Centers
- Residential Centers and/or Homes

Facilities That Are Not Considered Institutions Facilities not considered as institutions:

- Private homes providing temporary shelters
- Crisis centers, including domestic abuse centers
- Private homes sheltering domestic violence victims
- Homeless Shelters or Centers

Individuals living in these types of facilities are considered homeless by the Nebraska WIC Program.

Refer to Volume I, Section L, Page 2 for information on serving homeless applicants.

Nebraska WIC Program Policy Nebraska does not serve persons residing in institutions. These might include correctional centers, jails, drug rehabilitation centers, or group homes to list a few.

**Mothers & Infants
Both Living in
Institutions**

Infants living with mothers who are residing in an institution are considered to also be residing in the institution and are not eligible to receive food benefits.

State WIC staff may be contacted to discuss specific cases anytime there are questions.

**Identification of
Institutions**

Local agencies need to be aware of facilities and institutions in the communities they serve. A list of these should be kept for staff reference. The list might include information about the institution or facility.
