



WIC AND COVID-19: DEBUNKING THE MYTHS

FALSE: DUE TO COVID-19 AND POSSIBLE STOCKING SHORTAGES, INFANT FORMULA MANUFACTURERS WILL SEND YOU FREE CANS OF FORMULA IF YOU CALL THE NUMBER ON THE BACK OF THE CAN.

You may have heard through social media that if you call the phone number on the back of the infant formula can and ask for free formula, then the manufacturer will honor your request.

This is **false**. NWA has confirmed that infant formula manufacturers are not sending free cans of infant formula to individuals who call the number on the can. Enfamil's website clearly states:

We are committed to helping every baby get the formula he or she needs. That's why we are doing everything we can to ensure product availability on Amazon or Walmart and at your neighborhood store, which you can locate by using the Enfamil Store Locator. Contrary to rumors in some online social networks, we are not distributing free cases of formula. We are instead focused on ensuring equitable availability for every baby.

Additionally, this CNN article also dispels the myth.



FALSE: WIC IS CANCELLING EBT CARDS AT THE END OF MARCH AND SENDING EMERGENCY CARDS OUT FOR THE COVID-19 PANDEMIC.

You may have heard through social media that WIC is calling participants in certain states, such as Texas and Louisiana, to say that participants should use the remaining benefits on their EBT cards by a certain date because WIC will be sending out new cards with additional benefits to be used during the COVID-19 pandemic. It is true that in some cities and counties, participants will be receiving

EBT cards in the mail with additional benefits so that they do not have to come into the WIC clinic to load new benefits on their current EBT cards. However, the cards that states are sending out are regular EBT cards, not emergency EBT cards.

FALSE: HOMEMADE INFANT FORMULA IS SAFE.

Do not make homemade infant formula, as it is dangerous for your baby. Instead, call your local WIC clinic and ask for help.