

Comparison Between WIC Fruit & Vegetable Checks (FVC) and Farmers' Market Nutrition Program (FMNP) Checks

	FVC WIC Fruit & Vegetable Checks	FMNP Farmers' Market Nutrition Program Checks
When Issued?	Monthly	Once every year during the market season
What are the values of the checks?	\$8 \$11 \$17	\$5 (4 checks totaling \$20)
Can the participant pay cash if the purchase price exceeds the value of the check?	Yes	Yes
Can the participant receive change if the purchase price is less than the value of the check?	No	No
Is the participant's name on the check?	Yes	No
Customer Usage	Participant must use check between the dates listed on the checks	Participant may use check anytime between June 1 and November 30
	Farmers are required to write the purchase price on all checks	Price is pre-filled
	Participant must sign check	Participant must sign check
Product Types	Fruits and Vegetables from any source	Grown in Maryland or contiguous counties of bordering states
	No herbs	Herbs allowed
Deposit Procedure	Farmers are to put assigned FMNP stamp on all FVC checks	Farmers are to put assigned FMNP stamp on all FMNP checks
	Checks need to be deposited within 30 days of the last date-to-spend on check	Farmers can deposit checks anytime between June 1 and December 5
	Farmer responsible for returned check charges if returned by the bank	Farmer responsible for returned check charges if returned by the bank
Agreement with the State	Each individual farmer must have a signed written agreement with the State WIC Program & MD Dept. of Agriculture (joint agreement) once every three years and update selling locations annually.	Each individual farmer must have a signed written agreement with the MD Dept of Agriculture and State WIC Program (Joint agreement) once every three years and update selling locations annually.
Training	Each farmer must attend training on regulations and procedures of FVCs in first year of program participation, and review and sign-off on annual updates thereafter	Each farmer must attend training on regulations and procedures of FMNP in first year of program participation, and review and sign-off on annual updates thereafter
Questions	Contact the WIC Vendor Unit at 410-767-5722	Contact the Dept of Agriculture at 410-841-5775