

KEEP THE PARTICIPANT IN A BREASTFEEDING (BF) CATEGORY. IT'S HELPFUL FOR BOTH BREASTFEEDING PARTICIPANTS AND THE PROGRAM.

Information:

The WIC program encourages participants to breastfeed and provides nutritional support for breastfeeding participants. The USDA states: *"Breastfeeding means the practice of feeding a mother's breast milk to her infant(s) on the average of at least once a day."*

When the BF participant asks for formula, complete a [Breastfeeding Review](#). Once the participant makes an informed choice to continue breastfeeding, keep them in a BF category by:

- Selecting "Yes" for the "Are you breastfeeding" question on the BF Information section of the Health Information Screen; and
- Completing all the starred questions.

After saving the updated BF Information section, review the food package prescriptions for the breastfeeding dyad. Update, as needed, to ensure they're receiving one of the following food packages (Breastfeeding Status):

- Fully Breastfed
- Partially BF <= half package
- Partially BF > half package
- Fully Formula Fed

Doing these steps helps both the BF participant and the WIC program by providing:

- Support for the BF participant who gets a partially BF or Fully Formula Fed food package, has an infant six months or older, and isn't receiving WIC foods. They can receive:
 - BF support from staff and peer counselors
 - A breast pump, if needed
 - Farmer's Market benefits, during the market season
- Continuity of care through access to specific Cascades screens for:
 - Peer counselors to document in the *Breastfeeding Peer Counselor Care Plan*
 - Staff to document in the *Breastfeeding Support Issue Pump* screens
- Correct BF data for accessing accurate reports on BF initiation and duration rates

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DOH 961-1238 August 2023

