

## **What WIC staff should know about Income & Assets Rules**

Families with income at or below 130% of the Federal Poverty Level are eligible for food stamps; slightly more restrictive than WIC requirements. Nationally, nearly 70% of WIC participants are income-eligible for food stamps. (Try to find California #s) The following chart lists the maximum monthly income for families eligible for WIC and food stamps side-by-side.

| Household Size         | WIC Gross Monthly Income Limit | Food Stamps Gross Monthly Income Limit | Maximum Food Stamps Monthly Benefit |
|------------------------|--------------------------------|--|-------------------------------------|
| 1                      | \$1,288                        | \$905                                  | \$130                               |
| 2                      | \$1,735                        | \$1,219                                | \$238                               |
| 3                      | \$2,182                        | \$1,533                                | \$341                               |
| 4                      | \$2,629                        | \$1,848                                | \$434                               |
| 5                      | \$3,076                        | \$2,162                                | \$515                               |
| 6                      | \$3,253                        | \$2,476                                | \$618                               |
| 7                      | \$3,970                        | \$2,790                                | \$683                               |
| 8                      | \$4,417                        | \$3,104                                | \$781                               |
| 9                      | \$4,866                        | \$3,419                                | \$879                               |
| Each additional member | +\$448                         | +315                                   | +98                                 |

### **Working families often qualify for Food Stamps**

- A family of 3 with one parent working 40 hours/week at minimum wage (\$5.75/hour) that pays \$500 in rent each month is eligible for approximately \$218/month in Food Stamps each month
- A family of 4 with one parent working 40 hours/week at \$7/hour, that pays \$400 in rent each month is eligible for approximately \$217 in Food Stamps each month

Most families applying for Food Stamps are limited to \$2,000 in assets, like cash in hand or in the bank. The following assets do not count towards this limit; they are exempt:

- A car worth under \$4,650
- A house that the applicant owns and lives in