Email Message to WIC State Agencies

As you know, the Food and Nutrition Service (FNS) has implemented a partial shutdown of operations due to a lapse in Federal government funding.

WIC State agencies currently have FY 2019 grant funds on hand equal to 36% of their food base grants and 33% of their nutrition services and administration (NSA) base grants. This includes approximately $2 billion of total funding and is expected to sustain program operations through the month of January. However, we are aware that State specific challenges may arise. We want to reassure you that FNS staff are available to address these issues and help you to maintain the continuity of program operations. In anticipation of these potential challenges, on January 3, FNS plans to begin to:
1) Allocate all remaining carryover funds and preliminary recoveries to State agencies;
2) Work with State agencies to make their FY 2018 NSA spend forward funds available for FY 2019 obligations; and
3) Ask State agencies to identify additional unspent FY 2018 funds that may be available for recovery and reallocation as FY 2019 grant funds.

During the shutdown, we will continue to assess State agency funding needs, and if necessary, allocate all available funds to support ongoing program operations.

Please let us know ASAP if any State agencies plan to significantly alter or shutdown program operations due to insufficient funding. FNS stands ready to assist you, and remains committed to ensuring all eligible participants are served.

Thank you,