

WIC EBT Interface Control Document (ICD) Template

For: Maryland and U.S. Virgin Islands (USVI) WIC Programs

Prepared By: Bryan Thompson

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1. Introduction

This document defines the interface between the Maryland and USVI WIC Management Information Systems (MIS) and their EBT processors, in alignment with the WIC Universal MIS-EBT Interface Specification (WUMEI), Technical Implementation Guide (TIG), and WIC Operating Rules.

2. Acronyms

MIS – Management Information System

EBT – Electronic Benefit Transfer

WIC – Women, Infants, and Children

USVI – U.S. Virgin Islands

TIG – Technical Implementation Guide

WUMEI – WIC Universal MIS-EBT Interface

ICD – Interface Control Document

3. Definitions

Batch File: A file containing multiple records processed together.

Cardholder: A participant authorized to receive WIC benefits using the EBT card.

Benefit Maintenance: Updates or changes to issued WIC benefits.

4. Interface Overview

Describes system roles, communication protocols, and integration approach between MIS and EBT systems.

5. Data Exchange Specifications

Include data elements such as Participant ID, Household ID, Benefit Start/End Date, UPC, PLU, Item Category, etc.

Include usage notes, type (string, integer, date), and allowed codes where applicable.

Field Name	Description	Data Type	Format	Required	Code Set / Notes
Participant ID	Unique ID for participant	String	Alphanumeric	Yes	Max 10 chars
Household ID	Unique ID for household	String	Alphanumeric	Yes	Same as MIS household ID
Benefit Start Date	Benefit issuance start date	Date	YYYY-MM-DD	Yes	Must be current or future
Benefit End Date	Benefit issuance end date	Date	YYYY-MM-DD	Yes	Must follow start date
UPC	Product code	String	12-digit	Yes	Numeric only
Item Category	Category of WIC item	Integer	2-digit	Yes	e.g., 01 = Milk

6. Functional Requirements

Support real-time transaction processing, batch updates, benefit issuance, and card replacement.

- Card Issuance and Replacement – supports issuing new cards and replacing lost, stolen, or damaged cards.
- Benefit Issuance and Cancellation – supports issuing new, updated, or canceled benefits.
- Transaction Inquiry – allows checking current balance and transaction history.
- Card Status Inquiry and Update – allows card suspension, reactivation, or status checks.

7. Error Handling Procedures

Define error codes, retry logic, and resolution workflows.

Examples of error codes and handling actions:

Error Code | Description | Suggested Action

100 | Invalid Card Number | Return error and log attempt

203 | Benefit Expired | Prompt user to reissue benefit

302 | Household ID Mismatch | Reject transaction with reason code

8. Security and Compliance Measures

Include encryption, authentication, and audit logging requirements.

9. Business Rules

List key business rules that govern data validation, benefit calculation, and redemption logic.

- Redemptions must not exceed available benefit balance.
- Only authorized WIC items may be redeemed.
- Household-level benefits must be synchronized across all linked cardholders.
- Future-dated transactions should be rejected by the EBT processor.

10. Benefit Maintenance

Explain processes for updating, canceling, or reissuing benefits.

Benefits follow a 'replace-all' model: each new benefit file replaces all prior data for that participant.

If a participant is re-certified, the MIS must cancel the existing benefit and issue a new package with adjusted dates.

Example Rule: If benefits are active and the participant is re-certified, reissue must cancel the earlier benefit to prevent overlap.

11. Cardholder and Card Maintenance

Processes for card updates, PIN changes, lost/stolen reporting, and linking cards to participant records.

12. Redemption History

Describe how redemption history is captured, stored, and transmitted to MIS.

Sample redemption transaction fields:

Field Name | Format | Notes

Transaction Date | YYYY-MM-DD | Date of redemption

Card Number | Masked | Only last 4 digits shown

Store ID | Integer | Authorized vendor identifier

UPC | 12-digit | Item redeemed

Quantity | Numeric | Number of items redeemed

13. Batch File Processing

Explain formats, naming conventions, transmission schedule, and reconciliation steps.

Filename Pattern	File Type	Direction	Schedule	Notes
MDUSVI_ISSUE_YYYYMMDD.txt	Benefit File	To EBT	Daily	Sent by MIS to EBT vendor
MDUSVI_ACK_YYYYMMDD.txt	Acknowledgment	From EBT	Daily	Response to benefit file
MDUSVI_REDEEM_YYYYMMDD.txt	Redemption File	From EBT	Daily	Redemptions from prior day

14. References

- WIC Universal MIS-EBT Interface Specification (WUMEI)
- WIC EBT Technical Implementation Guide
- WIC Operating Rules

Appendices

Appendix A – Sample Transaction File Layout

Field Name	Format	Required	Description
Transaction Date	YYYY-MM-DD	Yes	Date the redemption occurred
Time	HH:MM:SS	Yes	Timestamp of transaction
Store ID	Integer	Yes	WIC-authorized vendor number
Terminal ID	String	Optional	POS terminal identifier
Card Number (masked)	9999*****9999	Yes	Masked card number used
UPC	12-digit numeric	Yes	Item redeemed
Quantity	Numeric	Yes	Number of items redeemed
Amount	Decimal	Optional	Dollar value if applicable

Appendix B – Error Codes and Descriptions

Common interface-level error codes for file and transaction handling:

Error Code	Meaning	Recommended Action
001	File Format Error	Reject and notify sender
100	Invalid Card Number	Log and return error response
203	Expired Benefit	Prompt user to reissue
302	Household ID Mismatch	Reject with reason code
409	Duplicate Transaction	Discard and log as duplicate