Enjoy more fresh, frozen or canned fruits & vegetables!

### CHANGES COMING TO YOUR ILLINOIS EWIC BENEFITS

### WHAT YOU WILL SEE ON YOUR FAMILY SHOPPING LIST

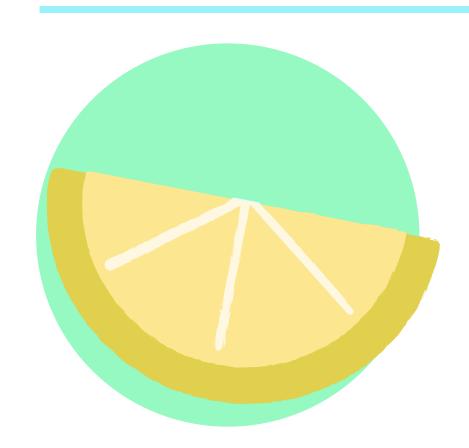


JUNE 2021 - SEPTEMBER 2021 WIC FAMILIES WILL RECEIVE A MONTHLY \$35 CASH VALUEBENEFIT FOR FRUITS & VEGETABLES FOR EVERY ELIGIBLE MOM AND CHILD

#### FOR RECIPES FEATURING FRUITS AND VEGETABLES:

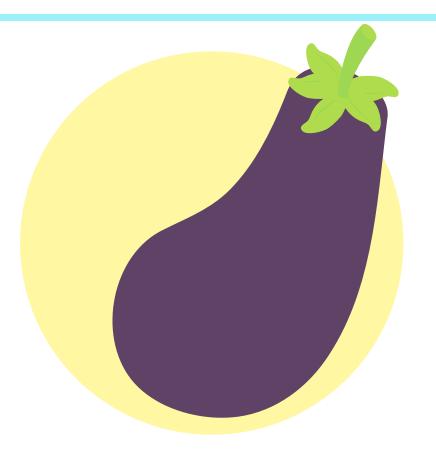
- WIC Health E Kitchen wichealth.org
- My Plate myplate.gov
- **Kids Eat Right eatright.org**
- Illinois Nutrition Education Program inep.extension.illinois.edu
- Fruits and Veggies More Matters fruitsandveggiesmorematters.org

# WHAT'S IN SEASON



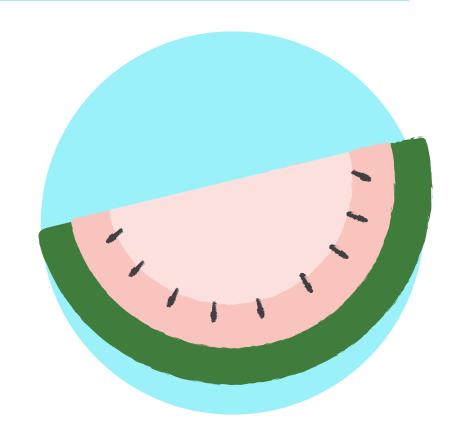
#### **SPRING**

Lettuce \* Beets \* Peas
Peppers \* Spinach \* Rhubarb
Strawberries \* Kale \* Celery
Green Onion \* Turnip
Asparagus



#### SUMMER

Artichoke \* Lettuce \* Beets
Broccoli \* Cabbage \* Peas
Cauliflower \* Cherries \* Okra
Peppers \* Green Beans \* Kale
Carrot \* Watermelon \* Corn
Summer Squash \* Spinach \* Onion
Radish \* Eggplant \* Celery
Apricot \* Cucumber \* Turnip
Berries \* Tomato \* Zucchini
Apple \* Potato



#### FALL

Beets \* Broccoli \* Apple
Pear \* Zucchini \* Turnip
Squash \* Melon \* Beans
Eggplant \* Celery \* Onion
Corn \* Tomato \* Carrot
Cauliflower \* Peas \* Cabbage
Peppers \* Leeks \* Potato
Pumpkin \* Cucumber



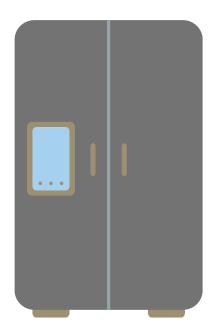
#### **SELECT**

- Seasonal produce has the best taste, is easier found and saves money
- A rainbow of colors: each has its own set of power-packed nutrients
- Firm to the touch and brightly colored produce



#### **CLEAN**

- Always wash produce in cold water before cooking or enjoying- even if you are going to peel it
- ☑ Never use soap or bleach☑ Scrub firm produce with a clean brush before slicing



STORE

- Refrigerate all cut, peeled or cooked produce
- Produce needs to breatheif you put it in a bag, poke holes in it to let the air in
- Help fresh produce last longer by storing in the fridge or on the counter (depending on what it is)

## CANNED PRODUCE



#### **SELECT**

Choose canned fruits and vegetables that are free from damage, dents or rust

Canned produce should be stored in a cool, dry place Use canned produce within a year of purchase for best taste and flavor



#### **FRUIT**

Any brand, size, container type
Plain Fruit or Fruit mixtures packed in water or juice
Applesauce (no sugar added or unsweetened only)



#### **VEGETABLES**

Any brand, size, container type
Regular or Low sodium
Plain Vegetables or Vegetable mixtures
Tomato Products
(crushed, whole, puree, sauce, salsa or picante)

Refer to your IL WIC Food List for more details on purchasing canned items

#### **How to Use Canned Produce**

Canned tomatoes can be used to make chili or pasta sauce, just add dried or fresh herbs!

Add canned fruits on top of fat-free or low-fat cottage cheese, yogurt, pancakes or waffles for a sweet treat!

Add to soups, casseroles or enjoy as is- it's a great option that does not spoil as quick as fresh produce

## FROZEN PRODUCE



#### **SELECT**

Choose fruits and vegetables that are frozen solid Get frozen fruits and vegetables into the freezer as soon as possible

Frozen produce can be stored 8 - 12 months in the freezer at 0 degrees or lower



#### **FRUIT**

Any brand with no added sugar Any variety or mixture of fruits



#### **VEGETABLES**

Any brand, size, package type Regular or Low sodium Plain Vegetables or Vegetable mixtures

Refer to your IL WIC Food List for more details on purchasing frozen items

#### **How to Use Frozen Produce**

Toss in frozen
vegetable
mixes to make a
quick and tasty
stir fry!

Add frozen fruit to your favorite hot cereal or to ice cube trays for a cool treat to enjoy with your water!

Try roasting frozen vegetables at 425F for 30 minutes for a warm and comforting side dish!