Remote Benefit Issuance

How has FNS’ technology neutral stance and investment in the development of policy, business and technical standards furthered the cooperation between government and industry to identify, take on and resolve WIC EBT challenges?
Background

- **Online EBT**
  - EBA information sent to the EBT Host
  - EBA stored at the host is used in online transactions

- **Smart card EBT**
  - EBA stored on the smart card chip and accessed by the ECR locally in transactions
  - Update to EBA requires interaction with card (clinic visit)

  - Provided only prospective standard for remote issuance for smart card EBT
Closing the Gap

- WY WIC “Proof of Concept” demonstration
  - Shows remote benefits issuance is feasible for smart card EBT
  - Functionality built into the MPSC MIS that allows for this function to be turned on or off
  - Great cooperative effort between FNS, Wyoming WIC, Ciber and JPMA to get this off the paper and into reality
Why Remote Benefit Issuance?

- Emergency situations
- Participant convenience
- Ease workload on WIC clinics
Where?

- **Kiosks**
  - WIC clinics
  - Vendor stores
  - Third party locations

- **Modified in-store ECR/POS systems**
  - In lane
  - At customer service
Remote Issuers?

- Who are the remote issuers?
  - Kiosk owners
  - WIC EBT vendors
  - Others we may not have thought of?
Current Wyoming Setup for Smart Card Remote Benefits Issuance

- WIC EBT Host Server
- WIC MIS Host Server
- Benefit Issuance & Hot Cards
- Remote Benefits Available
- FTP Server
- RBL
- Remote Benefits Loaded
- Remote Issuer Server
- Kiosk or Store Terminal
- Approved Product List
- Hot Card List
- HCL
- APL
- RBA
- WIC Smart Card
References

- X9.93-2 2013, Annex C, Section C.6
EBT Project Manager, Penny Tisdale, Etegrity LLC;
John Booth and Phil Progar, CIBER, developer of the Mountain Plains State Consortium SAM MIS, WY’s Horizons MIS;
Jim Magee, Founder and Principal of JPMA, the developer and maintainer of WY WIC kiosks and WIC authorized vendor store systems; and
Paul Jaeger, Paul Jaeger Associates, Inc., the developer and maintainer of the WY WIC EBT Settlement Service (WESS).