Orange County Chapter

Parent Tips for Obtaining Infant Formula During COVID-19 Pandemic

Call Your Pediatrician

- Pediatricians can recommend other brands that are similar to your go-to brand that may not be available
- Your pediatrician may have samples to provide if you are unable to find product in stores.

Call Your WIC Clinic

- Your local WIC may be able to guide you in locating stores with available supplies
- Contact your local WIC to determine eligibility for benefits

Be Mindful of Food Safety

- Make sure the formula was made in the U.S. and is not expired
- Do not buy formula from unknown online sellers, or individuals selling from their personal stores, as these products may be fake, or of unknown quality
- Do not make your own formula

Check Other Stores

- Local stores, smaller stores may still have formula in stock
- Ask a store manager if they have more stock in the back, or behind the counter for families in need
- Check online to see if your store may deliver or hold item for pickup
- Call stores before arriving

Check Online

- Stores may not have had time to restock so online retailers are another option
- If internet access is not available, call up stores to see if they have any in stock before coming

Contact Your Local Hospital

• Though supplies are limited to patients, some hospitals are understanding and will give some formula out for an emergency situation.

Contact Your Local Food Bank

Second Harvest Food Bank of Orange County

8014 Marine Way Irvine, CA 92618

Phone: (949) 653-2900 Web Site: www.feedoc.org

Reference: Miller, K. (2020). Buying baby formula during the coronavirus outbreak: what parents need to know. www.whattoexpect.com/news/family/baby-formula-during-coronavirus/

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Community Action Partnership of Orange County Food Bank

11870 Monarch St. Garden Grove, CA 92841

Phone: (714) 897-6670

Web Site: www.ocfoodbank.org

• Dozens of other non-profits, food pantries, and meals sites operate in Orange County, California. Thousands of families receive some form of assistance from these centers every month. Dial 949-653-2900 to get information, addresses, and phone numbers of additional pantries.

If You are Breastfeeding

- Follow the CDC guidelines on breastfeeding and COVID-19: www.cdc.gov/coronavirus/2019-ncov/prepare/pregnancy-breastfeeding.html
- Is homemade baby formula safe? Click on the links below for more information.
 - o www.aappublications.org/news/2019/02/25/homemadeformulapp022519
 - o <u>www.healthychildren.org/English/ages-stages/baby/formula-feeding/Pages/Is-Homemade-Baby-Formula-Safe.aspx</u>