SIGIS: Special Interest Group for IIAS Standards SIGIS Eligible Product List Criteria for Supporting Private Label Items

General Private Label Item Inclusion Criteria

A merchant can add private label, regionally-branded, or specially-packaged, nationally-branded products in an IIAS implementation if the item is not included in the SIGIS Eligible Product List. These items must have substantially the same active ingredient, form, and function, to a national brand-equivalent item that is included in the SIGIS Eligible Product File. These items should differ only by brand, packaging, size, count, or other related criteria and should not substantially differ in its intended usage.

A Private Label Item or other item not included in the SIGIS Eligible Product List that is designated by a merchant as a eligible product for inclusion in an SIGIS-compliant IIAS solution must meet all of the following general eligibility standards:

- 1. Item must meet the general standards for eligibility established by the IRS Section 213(d).
- 2. Item must meet the general inclusion standards established by SIGIS. If the item is not in the SIGIS Eligible Product List, merchants can submit a Missing Product Form and request inclusion of the item.
- 3. Item must be eligible for inclusion in the same Category, Subcategory and Fine Category designations defined for the SIGIS Eligible Product List. Items that do not fit into these categories could not be automatically included in a merchant's Private Label Eligible Item File. Merchants must submit a Missing Product Form and request inclusion of the item.
- 4. Item must use substantially similar materials to a nationally-branded item included in the SIGIS Eligible Product List. Substantially similar is considered to contain the same active ingredients or composition as a nationally-branded item included in the SIGIS Eligible Product List.
- 5. Item must have the same intended usage as the equivalent nationally-branded item(s) included in the SIGIS Eligible Product List.

An item identified by a merchant as an eligible product must satisfy all of the five (5) criteria established above.

In addition, ideally a private label item will have a "compare to" national brand equivalent that is included in the SIGIS Eligible Product List.

Items that differ only in packaging, such special promotion packages containing a nationally-branded item, would fall into the above criteria.

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