



Plan for Plastics

Exemption information sheet

Exemptions are granted under [certain circumstances](#) to pause compliance with Environmental Protection (Prohibited Plastics and Balloons) Regulations 2018.

To ensure an efficient application process, please review the following information carefully in conjunction with the [procedure](#).

- New exemption applications for [Stage 1](#) items will not be accepted from **1 December 2024** for:
 - supply chain issues
 - transitional supply.
- Existing exemption applications awaiting Australian certification will have until **31 December 2024** to gain Australasian Bioplastics Association (ABA) certification as no further exemptions will be granted.
- Class exemption [SUP0001/2022/2](#) for [Stage 2](#) items applies for transitional supply, where suppliers and purchasers have a pending AS4736 or AS5810 certification.
- Additional exemption applications for transitional supply pending ABA certification will expire after six months from the date of issue.
- New exemption applications for [Stage 2](#) items will not be accepted six months beyond the expiry of the relevant class exemptions for:
 - supply chain issues
 - transitional supply.

Understanding exemptions

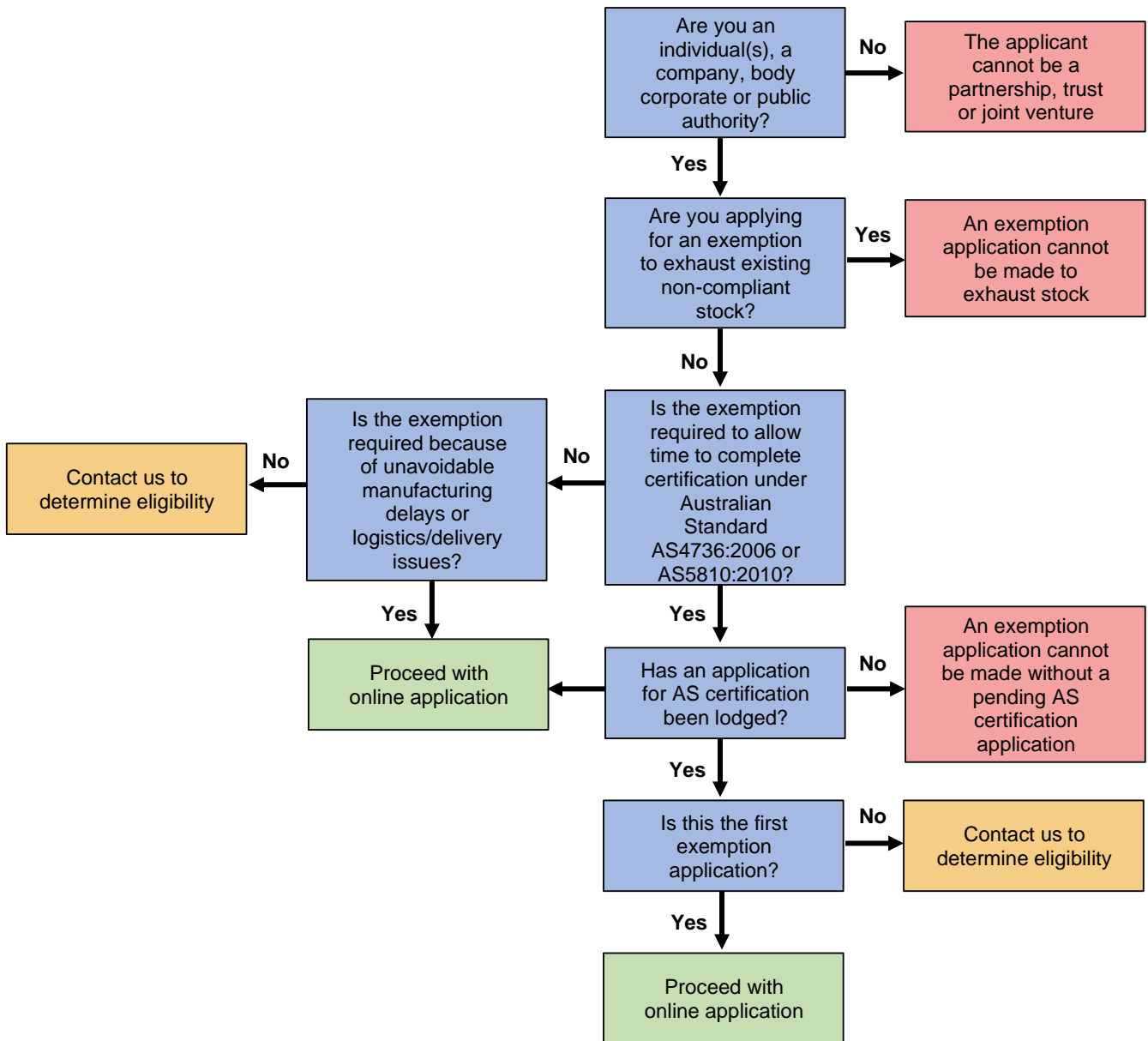
- Exemptions are typically granted for exceptional circumstances where compliance with Regulations is not possible or practical such as unavoidable supply chain issues or to provide transitional supply.
- The CEO will only consider applications for an exemption where it is reasonably necessary to do so and where granting an exemption will not undermine the intent of the Regulations.
- Exemptions will not be granted to run down existing stock.

Eligibility

- Read details of the [eligibility criteria](#).
- Ensure your circumstances meet the specified criteria before proceeding with an application.



Two main exemption considerations - decision tree for applicant



Application process

- Applications are to be made using the online [single-use plastics exemption form](#).
- Applications for [Stage 1](#) items will not be considered.
- Complete all sections of the application form accurately.
- Attach any required documentation or evidence to support your request.
- Submit the completed application within the specified timeframe.
- Incomplete applications will not be considered and returned as 'invalid' without the request for further information.



Documentation

- Provide all necessary documentation as outlined in the application requirements.
- Ensure that any supporting documents are current, relevant and accurately represent your circumstances.
- **A decision can be made without the request for further information.**

Justification

- Clearly articulate the reasons you are requesting an exemption. Exhausting existing stock is not an applicable exemption consideration and applications deemed to be using this consideration will be refused or returned as invalid.
- Provide a detailed explanation of how your situation meets the criteria for exemption. The onus is on the applicant to make a strong case for an exemption.

Review process

- Understand that the review process may take some time.
- Compliance with Regulations is paused during the assessment process so businesses can continue to supply the non-compliant prescribed plastic items in WA. However, we strongly recommend awaiting an outcome before making business decisions which may be negatively impacted if the application is refused.
- Be prepared for potential follow-up queries or requests for additional information from the reviewing officer.

Notification

- Await notification of the decision regarding your exemption application.
- Be sure to provide up-to-date contact information to ensure you receive any correspondence regarding your application status.

Appeals process

- There are no grounds for appeal once a decision is made.

Compliance

- If your exemption is approved, ensure that you comply with any conditions or requirements specified in the approval. [Grants will be published.](#)
- Failure to comply may result in revocation of the exemption.
- If your exemption is refused, you will need to advise your customers of the change and immediately cease sale and supply of the non-compliant items within 30 days under r.16 of the Regulations.
- Refusals are monitored for compliance.

More information

- If you have any questions or need assistance throughout the application process, please contact the Priority Materials team: plastic-exemptions@dwer.wa.gov.au.