

FREQUENTLY ASKED QUESTIONS (FAQ) ON HALAL

1. What is Halal?

Halal is an Arabic word that translates to "permissible" in English. Halal is also considered as "lawful" or "allowed".

2. Why do you choose Halal?

- a) Health benefits
- b) Hygienic
- c) Safe to eat
- d) Ethical

3. Which Malaysian Standard should be referred to when it comes to Halal for food?

MS 1500:2009 for Halal Food

4. Who is eligible to apply for Halal?

Halal application is open to Manufacturer/ producer, Distributor/ trader, Sub-contract manufacturer, Repacking, Food premise, Abattoir/slaughter house and Pharmaceutical industry.

5. Who are the stakeholders involved in Halal?

Jabatan Kemajuan Islam Malaysia (JAKIM), Jabatan Agama Islam Negeri (JAIN) and Ministry of Domestic Trade, Cooperative and Consumerism (MDTCC).

6. Where can I apply for Halal?

Kindly visit <http://apps.halal.gov.my/myehalal/pemohon/index.php> for Halal application.

7. How long does the process of Halal application take?

It takes around three (3) to six (6) months, but it is subjected to the current workload of the Halal certification department of JAKIM/JAIN.

8. What are the elements involved in Halal for food?

- a) Design and facilities
- b) Control of operation
- c) Maintenance, cleaning and sanitization
- d) Personal hygiene
- e) Transportation and distribution
- f) Product information
- g) Training
- h) Internal inspection
- i) Management review
- j) Legal requirements

9. What are the documents needed for Halal application?

- a) Copy of SSM certificate
- b) Copy of business license from local council
- c) Copy of annual financial statement / annual turnover
- d) Company profile
- e) Name and description of product / menu for certification
- f) Ingredients used
- g) Name and address of manufacturer / ingredient supplier

- h) Halal status for ingredients with halal certificate or product specification for critical ingredients (if relevant)
- i) Type of packaging material
- j) Manufacturing process and procedure
- k) Other documents such as HACCP, ISO, GHP, GMP, TQM etc. (If any)
- l) Location map of premise / factory.
- m) The applicant must create a "Halal Confirmation Certificate" file to store all relevant documents for reference during premise inspection.

10. What are the general requirements to apply for Halal?

- a) Establishment has to be registered with JAKIM at <http://apps.halal.gov.my/myehalal/pemohon/index.php>
- b) Establishment has to have a license from the local council
- c) Establishment has to be registered with the Companies Commission of Malaysia (SSM)
- d) Establishment has to have annual financial statement / annual turnover
- e) Establishment has to have at least two (2) Malaysian Muslim workers with permanent status in the production area
- f) Process flow chart of products
- g) Packaging artwork of products
- h) Location map of the premise / factory
- i) Establishment has to have a Halal Assurance System (HAS) manual

11. How long does the validity of the Halal certificate last?

The JAKIM Halal Certification is valid for 2 years and for the slaughterhouse, it is valid only for 1 year.

12. When is the suitable time to renew the Halal certificate? And where to renew?

Application shall be submitted at least three (3) months before the expiry date of the certification and submit a complete application form and/or other relevant documents to JAKIM Halal department.

13. If I am a restaurant owner, am I eligible for Halal application for my restaurant?

Yes, you are required to apply for Halal certification for the restaurant.

14. I have a Halal certified fruit juice factory based in Kajang and I would like to establish another similar factory at Skudai, can the current Halal certification apply to the new factory as well?

No, you have to undergo the application process again for the new factory although both factories are similar.

15. Under which situation(s) can cause termination of the Halal certification?

- a) The premise is found not operating more than six (6) months consecutively or shut down
- b) The location of the premise is changed
- c) The applicant has failed to obligate the requirements and regulations under the Halal certification scheme of JAKIM
- d) Causing confusion or misusing the Halal logo on the product or advertisement or any printing materials
- e) The applicant has failed to comply with the relevant laws and regulations in Malaysia and/or export countries.

16. Can I put the Halal logo on my product during the Halal application?

No, it is considered as an act of misusing the Halal logo.

17. Can I make my own Halal logo once I've gotten the Halal certification from MOH?

No, you must follow the logo specifications (Figure 1) as set by the Halal certification scheme by JAKIM.

HALAL LOGO



Halal logo refers to the logo issued by JAKIM/ JAIN/ MAIN and contains:

- An eight cusp star at the center of a circle.
- The Arabic word – "حلال" at the center of the star.
- The word "HALAL" in Roman alphabets below it.
- The word "Malaysia" written in Roman alphabets and "مِنَ الْمَلِكِ" in Arabic within the circle of the logo.
- Two small five cusp stars are positioned to separate the Roman alphabets from the Arabic word mentioned.

Figure 1. Logo specification of Halal logo