

FREQUENTLY ASKED QUESTIONS (FAQS)

General Information:-

How do I contact the PHA office?

- We are reachable at +92-51-9213184 or dg@pakistanhalalauthority.org.pk
- Alternatively, you may also want to follow us via our official Facebook page <https://www.facebook.com/PHAGoP/> if you wish to learn more about our Halal Conditions and requirements, you may visit our website at www.pakistanhalalauthority.org.pk

Where is PHA office located?

- We are located at Ground Floor, Ministry of Science and Technology Building, 1-Constitution Avenue, G-5/2 Islamabad, Pakistan.

What are the major functions of PHA?

- The major functions of PHA are to promote trade and commerce in Halal articles and processes. PHA is also responsible for ascertaining the Halal Status of the products, process and services maintained and monitored at all time in local market as well as products being imported/ exported.

Who should I contact if I have any other concerns or further enquiries?

- For technical questions you may call +92-51-9213184 or email dg@pakistanhalalauthority.org.pk

What does Halal/Haram mean?

- Halal is an Arabic term designating any object or an action that is permissible to use or engage in according to Shariah (Islamic law). This term is widely used to certify food items seen as permissible according to Islamic law.
- In contrast to Halal, Haram means forbidden. Haram designates prohibited objects such as food products and actions.

What is Halal Food?

- Halal food means food fit for human consumption and permitted by the Laws of Islam and that which fulfills the following conditions.

- The food or its ingredients do not contain any parts or products of animals that are non-Halal or products of animals which are not slaughtered according to the Laws of Islam.
- The food does not contain any ingredients that are “Haram” or “Najis”;
- The food is safe and not harmful for human health;

What is the base for Halal/Haram?

- The base of these commandments and interdictions is the holy Quran and the Sunnah (sayings and teachings of Prophet Muhammad).

Are the boundaries between Halal and Haram clear or is there a grey area?

- There are certain things and actions which tend to be Haram but are not explicitly forbidden.
These things are referred to as 'Mashbooh.' The term is representative of the grey area between Halal and Haram and literally means undesirable. As a precaution, this area should be avoided because its boundaries are not clear.

Does the concept of Halal exclude people of different faith?

- No. Contrary to many speculations, the concept of Halal does not exclude any non-Muslims from the consumption of ethically produced, high-quality Halal goods. Taking a closer look at the Halal standards, it is not surprising that there are customers who don't profess Islam but still buy and consume Halal-certified goods because they have to meet higher standards of hygiene.

What is Halal-certified Products?

- 'Halal-certified' refers to products which have been certified as Halal by a trustworthy Islamic body (third-party certification). Halal certification involves a series of steps including ingredients verification, inspection/audit and approval by committee. In general, all Halal-certified products are Halal, but not all Halal products are Halal-certified.

What is Halal Certificate?

- A Halal Certificate is an official document requiring food manufacturers to have observed and implemented Islamic requirements in producing Halal foods in accordance with Islamic law. A Halal Certificate is then issued by a Halal Certification Organization after conducting an inspection to verify that the required standards have been met.

What are the benefits of Halal Certification?

The benefits for Halal Certification is as follows:

- Leverage on the global Halal market worth more than US\$2.1 trillion
- Enhance competitive advantage in the global market place
- Provide greater assurance to Muslim consumers
- Leverage on small investment cost with huge potential growth in revenue
- Boost company's reputation in being able to meet varied customer needs.

Are there any other products that can be certified besides foods?

- Yes. Besides food products, there are also non-food products like pharmaceuticals, cosmetic products, and even products that are being used in products such as lubricants, cleaning agents, disinfectants, or animal feed. All these products can be certified by HCBs

What kind of added value do I receive as a client with a certification?

- The Halal certificate offers a marketing advantage over competitors. For Muslims, the Halal certification provides the guarantee that the products have been produced according to Islamic guidelines.

Is the certification recognized worldwide?

- The Halal certificate offers a marketing advantage over competitors. For Muslims, the Halal certification provides the guarantee that the products have been produced according to Islamic guidelines.

Are Halal products more expensive than others?

- If other raw materials or ingredients must be used to meet the Halal standards, Halal products can be more expensive under the circumstances. Otherwise, the certification does not affect the price which the final consumer will pay.

FAQ's