



Australian Government
**Department of Agriculture,
Fisheries and Forestry**

Requirements for plain English labelling of allergens in food

Undeclared allergens in food present a significant risk to human health for people with food allergies.

New requirements are being implemented to ensure mandatory food allergen declarations are clear and consistent so that people have the information they need to make safe choices.

Food Standards Australia New Zealand (FSANZ) has developed a 5-year implementation plan to support the new requirements.

- Businesses have a 3-year transitional period (until February 2024) to comply with the new requirements. During this period, importers can comply with the old declaration requirements or new requirements.
- From 25 February 2024, a 2-year stock-in-trade period will follow the transition period. Food packaged and labelled in accordance with the old requirements may be sold for up to 2 years.



What you need to do:

- Familiarise yourself with the new allergen labelling requirements and the implementation dates, available on the FSANZ website www.foodstandards.gov.au.
- Ensure imported food declares all allergens present, either in compliance with the previous requirements or the new requirements.
- Verify compliance by asking suppliers for ingredient information, product specification sheets and sample labels.
- Have a plan in place to ensure your food labelling complies with the new requirements by the implementation dates.

Refer to the department's website agriculture.gov.au for more information on imported food requirements

More information

The Australian Food & Grocery Council and the Allergen Bureau have developed a guide for the food industry.

See the Australian Food & Grocery Council and Allergen Bureau link here: <https://www.afgc.org.au/industry-resources/food-labelling-and-allergen-guide>

