FACTORY OR MANUFACTURERS

Frequently Asked Questions

LICENCES AND ACCREDITATIONS

Why do I need a dairy industry licence and what are the benefits?

Holding a current and valid licence and accreditation is your authorisation to operate in the Tasmanian dairy industry. It is a requirement of Part 3, Section 27 of the *Dairy Industry Act 1994* and Part 4, Section 11 of the *Primary Produce Safety Act 2011* that all dairy businesses operating in Tasmanian must be licensed and accredited with TDIA.

Aside from being a legal obligation, there are many other benefits to holding an accreditation with TDIA. For instance, an accreditation provides independent verification that the systems and processes you have in place are suitable for producing safe food. This is important for reassuring your customers and growing your business.

How do I get licensed to operate a dairy business in Tasmania?

TDIA is the licensing authority for the dairy industry. Prior to commencing business operations, engage with TDIA, who will help you understand your obligations and steer you through the application process.

If I operate more than one site as part of my dairy business, does each site need a separate licence?

A dairy business with more than one site will need to have each site licensed or accredited separately with TDIA. This is because your food safety program relates to the nature of the business operating at a particular site and in most cases no two premises operate in the same way.

If I operate multiple dairy activities e.g a farm and factory on the same site, is a separate licence for each activity required?

Yes, but can speak with us about combining the several programs into one for your whole business.

What are the costs associated with a licence and / or accreditation in Tasmania?

For further information regarding associated costs, please refer to our website - Factories | Tasmanian Dairy Industry Authority

How are applications for licences or accreditations assessed?

Applications are assessed based on a business's ability to meet the minimum food safety requirements set out by the relevant food safety requirements and any other applicable standards that may apply. For more detail refer to TDIA Factory Requirements document here: QUALITY SYSTEMS

How do I renew my licence or accreditation?

In early May of each year, all accreditation holders will receive a renewal notice via email. This notice includes instructions on how to renew your accreditation and complete the annual return. If you haven't received your renewal advice by 30 May, please contact us.

What is a temporary accreditation?

A temporary accreditation may be granted pending the determination of an application for accreditation. The period of temporary accreditation can be granted for a period not exceeding 3 months.

What should I expect to happen during an audit?

An audit is undertaken onsite generally twice per year (or more if required) by an authorised officer who is trained and has relevant qualifications to meet the requirements of the National Regulatory Food Safety Auditor Guidelines.

The purpose of the audit is to verify you are producing safe and suitable food in line with your documented and approved Food Safety Plan.

The verification activities may include a walkthrough of your factory, an examination of relevant documents and questions posed to staff to confirm their knowledge.

Can I export dairy products if I'm licensed with Tasmanian Dairy Industry Authority?

A dairy business currently exporting or intending to export dairy products must meet the requirements detailed in the *Export Control (Milk and Milk Products) Rules 2021* and will need to be registered with the Department of Agriculture, Fisheries and Forestry. Once export registration has been granted, TDIA will audit the export registered establishment on behalf of the department at the same time as they conduct a regular TDIA audit, so you will not need to be audited separately. For more details on the exporting of dairy food and registration requirements, go to the Department of Agriculture, Fisheries and Forestry website:

Exporting dairy products from Australia - DAFF

Does Department of Agriculture, Fisheries and Forestry have a FAQs page?

Yes, link below;

Frequently asked questions - DAFF

Does Department of Agriculture, Fisheries and Forestry have a service to assist new and existing exporters?

Yes, as part of the Dairy Export Assurance Program (DEAP), Department of Agriculture, Fisheries and Forestry are offering a free export facilitator service to provide tailored assistance to dairy manufacturers looking to become export registered. The service is also available to assist dairy manufacturers that are already export registered and are now looking for new opportunities. The website can be found here: Export facilitator service - DAFF

Does my dairy licence and accreditation allow me to sell dairy products at a farmers market?

Your dairy industry licence and accreditation does not permit you to sell dairy products at a local farmers market. If you intend to sell dairy products at a farmers market, you will need to be registered with your local Council. Contact your local council office for further details and requirements.

How do I cancel my dairy industry licence?

If you are no longer operating in the dairy industry you must submit a request to cancel your dairy licence in writing to TDIA.

How do I transfer my dairy industry licence?

If you are no longer operating your dairy business, but another business or individual is taking over, then you will need to have the licence transferred from your name to the name of the new operator by completing a licence application form. This is usually completed by the new operator.