

Import and Export  
(General)(Amendment) Regulation 2013  
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# Observe Powdered Formula Regulation Understand the Law Before Departure

Import and Export  
(General)(Amendment) Regulation 2013



食物及衛生局  
Food and Health Bureau

## Regulation

The Regulation prohibits the unlicensed export of powdered formula, including milk powder and soya milk powder, for infants and young children aged under 3 years.

## Exemption

Those aged 16 or above are exempt on their first departure within a 24-hour period, and each may take powdered formula with a total net weight of up to 1.8 kilograms (equivalent to 2 cans approximately) out of Hong Kong.

The maximum penalty for offenders is a fine of \$500,000 and imprisonment for 2 years.

To judge whether a product is subject to the above export control, the overall circumstances would need to be taken into account. The primary considerations are product descriptions and users instructions on the packaging, including the following information and other similar details:

- Product name
- Product descriptions on the can or other packaging
- Graphic design or pictures on the packaging
- Information contained in materials such as leaflets and labels accompanying the product
- Instructions on preparation method

Generally speaking, products under export control **include**:

- Milk powder and soya milk powder for consumption by infants and young children aged under 3 years in liquid form when reconstituted, according to the product descriptions and users instructions. Puree powder to be consumed in puree form is therefore not subject to export control;

but **do not include**:

- Powdered food for people with special nutritional needs (e.g. elderly people, pregnant women or people with osteoporosis) as a source of nutrients or nutritional supplement, according to the product descriptions; and
- Powdered food which are not intended as the major food source for infants and young children to satisfy wholly or partly their nutritional requirements, but for enjoyment of taste or for other purposes, e.g. Horlicks, Coffee Mate.

## Examples of products under export control or not under export control:

Product descriptions	Under export control	Not under export control	Explanation
For consumption by infants aged 0-6 months	√		
For consumption by infants aged 6-12 months	√		
For consumption by infants and young children aged 12-24 months	√		
For consumption by persons of all ages	√		Infants and young children aged 0-36 months are targeted
For persons aged 12 months or above	√		Although the main target is adults, young children aged 1 to 3 years are also included
Children aged under 1 year should not be fed on this product except under medical advice	√		Ditto
For consumption by young children aged 1 to 4 years	√		Young children aged 1 to 3 years are targeted
For consumption by young children aged 2 to 10 years	√		Young children aged 2 to 3 years are targeted
For consumption by persons aged 36 months/3 years or above		√	The product is not intended for infants and young children aged under 36 months
For consumption by pregnant women/ elderly people only		√	Ditto
For consumption by people with osteoporosis		√	Ditto
Age unspecified		√	No specific target is mentioned