



Home Office

Precursor chemical export and import authorisation

Licences issued pursuant to EU Regulation 111/2005 (as amended by The Law Enforcement and Security (Amendment) (EU Exit) Regulations 2019 [GB only] and the Controlled Drugs (Drug Precursors) (Amendment and Revocation) Regulations 2026 (GB only).

Since from 1 January 2021 GB-Northern Ireland and GB-EU Member State trade (and vice versa in both cases) has been subject to the requirements in this table. All applications for GB-NI and NI-GB trade must be made to the Home Office. Both importer and exporter must separately apply for a licence, where needed, according to this table.

Exporting

Importing

Individual consignment authorisation required for exports to:

Pre-Export Notifications (PEN) required (allow at least 17 working days processing time) for export to:

Individual consignment authorisation required for imports from:

Category 1 Drug Precursor Chemicals-

All substances

[Drug precursor chemicals: category and CN codes - GOV.UK](#)

Category 2A-Drug Precursor Chemicals

Acetic Anhydride

Red Phosphorous

Category 2B Drug Precursor Chemicals

Phenylacetic Acid

Potassium Permanganate

Category 2B Drug Precursor Chemicals

Anthranilic Acid

Piperidine

Category 3 Drug Precursor Chemicals

Acetone

Ethyl Ether

Methyl Ethyl Ketone (MEK)

Toluene

Category 3 Drug Precursor Chemicals

Hydrochloric Acid

Sulphuric Acid

Category 4 Drug Precursor Chemical Preparations

Ephedrine (Medicinal preparations)

Pseudoephedrine (Medicinal preparations)

All Countries

All Countries

All countries, with the following exceptions;
China (Anthranilic Acid only), Indonesia (Anthranilic Acid only), South Africa (Anthranilic Acid only), Thailand (Anthranilic Acid only), USA (Piperidine only),

Afghanistan, Antigua & Barbuda, Argentina, Australia, Benin, Bolivia, Brazil, Canada, Cayman Islands, Chile, Colombia, Costa Rica, Dominican Republic, Ecuador, Egypt, El Salvador, Ethiopia, Ghana, Guatemala, Haiti, Honduras, India, Jordan, Kazakhstan, Lebanon, Madagascar, Malaysia, Maldives, Mexico, Nigeria, Oman, Pakistan, Paraguay, Peru, Philippines, Republic of Korea, Republic of Moldova, Russian Federation, Saudi Arabia, Tajikistan, Turkey, United Arab Emirates, United Republic of Tanzania, Uruguay and Venezuela

Bolivia, Chile, Colombia, Ecuador, Peru, Russian Federation, Turkey and Venezuela

All Countries

All countries

Authorisation not required

Table 1 UN (Vienna)
1988 Convention

Table 2 UN (Vienna)
1988 Convention