

Voluntary Report – Voluntary - Public Distribution

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Report Name: Indonesia Accredits Five US Halal Certifying Bodies

Country: Indonesia

Post: Jakarta

Report Category: Special Certification - Organic/Kosher/Halal, FAIRS Subject Report, Livestock and Products, MISC-Commodity, Dairy and Products, Beverages

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Report Highlights:

On March 1, the Government of Indonesia's Halal Product Assurance Agency (BPJPH) listed five U.S. halal certifying bodies (HCBs) on its website as fully accredited to issue halal certificates for U.S. products destined for the Indonesian market. The accreditation of these five HCBs is vital to providing U.S. suppliers with as many halal certification service providers as possible before enforcement of Indonesia's mandatory halal certification law for most food and beverage products begins on October 17, 2024. U.S. producers seeking to send halal-eligible products to Indonesia should apply for halal certification either directly with the Indonesian government or through an accredited U.S. HCB. Mandatory halal certification does not apply to non-eligible products (i.e., haram/forbidden products such as those containing pork, alcohol, and other forbidden ingredients).

On March 1, the Indonesian Ministry of Religious Affairs' Halal Product Assurance Agency (BPJPH) listed five U.S. halal certifying bodies (HCBs) on its website https://bpjph.halal.go.id/search/data_lhln/ as fully accredited to issue halal certificates for U.S. products and services destined for the Indonesian market, along with the scopes of products and services for which they are accredited to certify.

These five HCBs and their halal certification scopes are as follows (in alphabetical order):

- **The American Halal Foundation (AHF)**, based in Tampa, Florida, is accredited to halal certify food, beverages, chemical products, drugs/pharmaceuticals, and slaughtering services. (The cosmetics scope is pending final approval.)
- **Halal Transactions, Inc. / Halal Transactions of Omaha (HTO)**, based in Omaha, Nebraska, is accredited to halal certify food, beverages, chemical products, and slaughtering services.
- **The Islamic Food and Nutrition Council of America (IFANCA)**, based in Des Plaines, Illinois, is accredited to halal certify food, beverages, drugs/pharmaceuticals, and cosmetics. (The chemical products scope and the biological products scope are pending final approval.)
- **Islamic Services of America (ISA)**, based in Cedar Rapids, Iowa, is accredited to halal certify food, beverages, chemical products, drugs/pharmaceuticals, and slaughtering services. (The cosmetics scope is pending final approval.)
- **The Islamic Society of the Washington Area (ISWA) Halal Certification Department**, based in Silver Spring, Maryland, is accredited to halal certify food, beverages, and slaughtering services.

Indonesia's accreditation of these five U.S. HCBs permits them to halal certify products/services within their approved scopes that are produced in the United States (from any state/territory); however, it does not permit them to halal certify products/services from other origins to Indonesia. According to [Government Regulation No. 39/2021](#), Article 139, three groups of products will be required to be halal-certified beginning on October 17, 2024, namely:

1. food and beverages;
2. raw materials, food additives, processing aids for food and beverages;
3. slaughtering services and slaughtering products.

In later years, other types of products will be required to be halal certified. For a complete list of all product categories that will be required to be halal-certified and their implementation timelines, please see [Government Regulation No. 39/2021](#). For a list of all halal-eligible products that require halal certification, please see MORA Decree No. 748/2021 ([unofficial English translation here](#)).

With the accreditation of these five U.S. HCBs, there are now two ways U.S. companies can halal certify their products for the Indonesian market: directly with the BPJPH or through one of the accredited U.S. HCBs. If a company chooses to halal certify and register a product directly

BPJPH vs HCB

BPJPH

- Company adopts and employs Indonesian Halal Assurance System Criteria (SJPH)
- Apply to BPJPH via SIHALAL by representative/importer
- Audit conducted by Indonesian Halal Inspection Agency (LPH) team
- Surveillance conducted by BPJPH's inspection team
- The validity period of the Halal Certificate will remain valid as long as there is no change in the composition of the ingredients/the product processes. If there is a change, the Halal Certificate must be renewed.

HCB

- Company adopts and employs Indonesian Halal Assurance System Criteria
- Apply to HCB recognized by BPJPH in the country where the company/business reside
- Audit & Surveillance conducted by HCB
- Halal Certificate validity between 1-4 years (as per agreement between HCB and company/business)
- Company needs to register its halal certificate to BPJPH to access Indonesian market

Source: Halal Product Assurance Agency (BPJPH)

with BPJPH, the company's in-country representative or importer must apply through the SIHALAL system at <https://ptsp.halal.go.id/>. An Indonesian halal inspection agency will audit the company's facilities, and a BPJPH inspection team will conduct any subsequent surveillance. The validity period of the product's halal certificate is indefinite so long as there is no change in the product's composition or production process.

If a company chooses to halal certify its product through an accredited U.S. HCB, it will need to register the HCB's halal certificate with BPJPH. (For more information on halal certificate registration, please see the following GAIN report: [BPJPH Mandates Registration of Foreign Halal Certificates for Imports](#).) The HCB will conduct the audit and surveillance, and the validity period of the certificate and the number of products that a halal certificate can cover will depend on the company's agreement with the HCB.

Collaborating with a Halal Certifying Body (HCB) based in the United States offers some advantages for U.S. businesses such as having similar time zones/business hours and getting service in American English vernacular. U.S. HCBs also have an enhanced understanding of both the American operating environment/constraints that U.S. companies face as well as the nuances and cultural sensitivities of international halal requirements, enabling them to tailor their support to suit the unique needs of American enterprises. As American enterprises themselves, HCBs are held to high expectations for providing clients robust protection in terms of liability, data security, contracts, and non-disclosure agreements for intellectual property.

For more information on halal certifying U.S. products for the Indonesian market through an HCB, please contact any of the five currently accredited U.S. HCBs. Their contact information is as follows:

American Halal Foundation (AHF)

Halal Certification Scopes: Food, Beverages, Chemical Products, Drugs/Pharmaceuticals, Slaughtering

(Cosmetics scope pending final approval)

Address: 10335 Cross Creek Blvd., Tampa, FL 33647, USA

Website: www.halalfoundation.org

Point of Contact: James Chambers, Chief Operating Officer

Email: james@halalfoundation.org

Phone: +1 206-898-0876 (cell)

Phone: +1 650-252-1600 (WhatsApp)

Halal Transactions, Inc. / Halal Transactions of Omaha (HTO)

Halal Certification Scopes: Food, Beverages, Chemical Products, Slaughtering

Address: 11636 West Center Rd., Omaha, NE 68144, USA

Website: www.HalalTransactions.org

Point of Contact: Jalot Al-Absy, General Director

Email address: Jalot.Absy@HalalTransactions.org

Phone: +1 402-572-6120 ext. 3 (office)

Phone: +1 402-714-3355 (cell)

Islamic Food and Nutrition Council of America (IFANCA)

Halal Certification Scopes: Food, Beverages, Drugs/Pharmaceuticals, Cosmetics

(Chemical products scope and biological products scope pending final approval)

Address: 2004 Miner St., Des Plaines, IL 60016, USA

Website: <https://ifanca.org/>

Point of Contact: Grace Tjahjono, Director of Global Relations

Email: grace.tjahjono@ifanca.org

Phone: +1 847-993-0034 ext. 220

Islamic Services of America, Inc. (ISA)

Halal Certification Scopes: Food, Beverages, Chemical Products, Drugs/Pharmaceuticals, Slaughtering

(Cosmetics scope pending final approval)

Mailing Address: PO Box 8268, Cedar Rapids, IA 52408 USA

Physical Address: 4362 16th Avenue SW, Cedar Rapids, IA 52404, USA

Website: www.isahalal.com

Point of Contact: Rahiem Martin, Business Director

Email: isa@isahalal.com

Phone: +1 319-362-0480

Islamic Society of the Washington Area (ISWA) Halal Certification Department

Halal Certification Scopes: Food, Beverages, Slaughtering

Address: 12510 Prosperity Drive, Suite 280, Silver Spring, MD 20904, USA

Website: www.ushalalcertification.com

Point of Contact: Aly Ghanim, Quality Manager

Email: info@ushalalcertification.com

Phone: +1 301-328-0592

Attachments:

No Attachments.