



Specified Person and Certified Buyer test

Importing firearms and firearm-related articles

About this Test

The specified person and certified buyer tests are for people whose occupation is partly or wholly the business of controlling vertebrate pest animals.

The **specified person** test applies to people who wish to import firearms or firearm-related articles **themselves**.

OR

The **certified buyer** test applies to people who are buying firearms or firearm-related articles which a **dealer** has already imported.

The tests apply to category C and D firearms as well as parts for these firearms.

Before you apply

Before you submit an application, you should contact your state or territory firearms registry to discuss local requirements and to ensure you are licensed or authorised to possess the article for your intended use.

You should also contact [Australian Border Force](#) about its requirements.

How to apply

There is no fee for making an application to the Attorney-General's Department for import permission or certification. Your application to import should be made in the same name that appears on the firearms licence (or exemption / authorisation) relevant to the articles sought to be imported. Your application should include copies of documents addressing each of the numbered criteria in this fact sheet.

The example documents listed in this fact sheet are indicative only, and other documents or evidence may be accepted to satisfy the criteria.

Applications for import permission and certification **must** be made online using the [Application to import firearms or firearms-related articles form](#).

Test criteria

1. Occupational requirements

To qualify under this test, your occupation **must** be partly or wholly the business of controlling vertebrate pest animals.

Vertebrate pest controllers

A person whose occupation is partly or wholly the business of controlling vertebrate pest animals could either be employed (part time or full time) as a pest controller, or may be self-employed running their own business involving contracts with government or private land holders to conduct those activities.

If you are employed as a pest controller or are a (self-employed) contract vertebrate pest controller, you should provide:

- a completed copy of the standard accountant's certification ([Attachment A](#))

- copies of contracts or letters with associated invoices and receipts showing how regularly you engage in vertebrate pest control
- documentation to demonstrate that payment has been received
- a copy of your latest income tax return
- a copy of your latest notice of assessment, and
- any other business records or documents that demonstrate you engage in pest control as a business rather than a hobby.

Other occupations

Other occupations, such as primary production and station managing, may partly or wholly involve the business of vertebrate pest control. For example, a person whose occupation is that of primary producer may need to conduct vertebrate pest control with firearms to protect stock and crops.

If you have an occupation which requires vertebrate pest control, you should provide:

- a completed copy of the standard accountant's certification (Attachment A)
- a copy of a rates notice for the affected property/properties or a copy of the property manager's employment contract
- proof of expenses relating to controlling vertebrate pest animals
- the type of property involved
- the extent of the pest problem
- the time spent managing that problem, and
- the availability and appropriateness of other viable means of pest control.

Evidence relating to some of this information could include photos, maps of properties, job descriptions from employers, and information from government agencies about dealing with pest animals in the region.

2. Licensed or authorised

You **must** be licensed or authorised in the relevant state or territory in order to possess the imported articles for your intended use.

In some states and territories, you may also be required to hold other licences or authorisations, such as a dealer's licence, armourer's licence, Commissioner's permit or a licence to import and store explosives (ammunition). Your application should contain details of all relevant licences and authorities.

Permit to acquire

In addition to the firearms licence, you will need to provide a current permit to acquire (PTA) before import permission can be granted. A permit to acquire is a statement from the relevant state or territory firearms registry that you will be able to possess the specific article intended to be imported.

NOTE: The Attorney-General's Department is unable to consider applications without a valid licence and PTA.

3. Licensed firearm dealer (certification only)

If you are applying for a certified buyer permit because the articles have already been imported into Australia by a licensed firearm dealer, you will need to provide supporting documentation to show that you intend to buy the articles from that dealer.

A receipt for the purchase of the article from the licensed firearm dealer is an example of a supporting document. The receipt should contain the name of the licensed firearm dealer and details of the licence they hold.

Post import permission

Your import permit will set out requirements relating to the use of the articles. These **must** be complied with. Failure to comply with any of the permit conditions is an offence under the Customs Act 1901 and may result in prosecution and future applications for import permission being denied. Generally, these conditions are:

- The importer must use the article(s) solely for controlling vertebrate pest animals.
- The importer must comply with all State and Territory requirements relating to the article(s).

Magazines

A vertebrate pest controller or primary producer who wishes to have magazines released to them from dealer stock must apply under the certified buyer test.

Parts

Parts which are controlled and therefore require import permission are:

- a gas piston, friction ring, action bar, breech bolt or breech block
- a firearm barrel
- a trigger mechanism
- a frame or receiver
- a slide
- an upper receiver
- a lower receiver
- a revolving cylinder
- a bolt carrier
- stocks adjustable by more than 120mm, a folding stock or a detachable stock
- a barrel extension, and
- something, other than a complete firearm, that includes one or more of the items mentioned in the dot points above.

Further Information

For further information, please refer to our Frequently Asked Questions on the [Firearms page](#) of the Attorney-General's Department website.

Important

You **must** receive import permission from the Attorney-General's Department prior to importing articles subject to this test.

If any articles arrive in Australia without import permission from the Attorney-General's Department, they may be subject to **seizure** and **destruction**. If you are issued with a Detention Notice by the Australia Border Force, you **must** apply for import permission immediately as strict time limits apply.

Please be aware that the possession of a firearms licence **does not** guarantee that import permission will be granted.

Contact us

General enquiries:

firearms.enquiries@ag.gov.au

Enquiries about current applications:

firearms.applications@ag.gov.au

(Please reference your application number in the 'subject' field)