



# Exemptions

State	Exemption/s
WA	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Polymer-lined paperboard cups, bowls and food containers where the product is certified to Australian Standard 4736-2006 or 5810-2010*. <a href="#">See details.</a></li> <li>• Under subregulation 1: A prescribed plastic item if the item forms part of, is attached to, or is inside the sealed packaging of, a pre-packaged food or drink product.</li> <li>• Under subregulation 2A: A prescribed plastic item that is a food container, food tray or bowl, if when the food container, food tray or bowl is supplied it - (a) contains food that is not eat-in food or takeaway food; and (b) has a lid on it (whether the lid is an integrated part of the food container, food tray or bowl or is detachable). Note this do not apply in relation to a prescribed plastic item that is made from expanded plastic.</li> <li>• Under subregulation 2B: The supply of a prescribed plastic item that is a lid for a food container, lid for a food tray or lid for a bowl if, when it is supplied — (a) the lid is attached to a food container, food tray or bowl that contains food that is not eat-in food or takeaway food; or (b) the lid is attached to a food container, food tray or bowl that - (i) is not a prescribed plastic item; and (ii) contains pre-packed takeaway food. Note this do not apply in relation to a prescribed plastic item that is made from expanded plastic.</li> <li>• Under subregulation 2C: The supply of a prescribed plastic item that is a catering platter, or a lid attached to a catering platter, if the catering platter — (a) contains food when it is supplied; and (b) is supplied in the course of conducting a business that provides catering services for functions or events. Note this do not apply in relation to a prescribed plastic item that is made from expanded plastic.</li> <li>• The wholesale supply of a prescribed plastic item if the wholesale supplier believes on reasonable grounds that the person to whom the item is supplied by the wholesale supplier, or another person to whom the item is subsequently to be supplied, will use the item — (a) to prepare a pre-packaged food or drink product; or (b) in the case of a prescribed plastic item that is a food container, a food tray or a bowl — supply the item as permitted under subregulation (2A); or (c) in the case of a prescribed plastic item that is a lid for a food container, a lid for a food tray or a lid for a bowl — supply the item as permitted under subregulation (2B); or (d) in the case of a prescribed plastic item that is a catering platter or a lid for a catering platter — supply the item as permitted under subregulation (2C); or (e) in connection with the service or consumption of food or drink on an aircraft.</li> <li>• A person may supply a straw as part of a pre-packaged food or drink product e.g., a straw attached to a juice box.</li> <li>• A person may supply a single prescribed drinking straw to a person on request with food or drink while conducting a business or undertaking (other than a retail business).</li> <li>• A person may supply a single prescribed drinking straw to a person if the supply occurs in connection with the service or consumption of food or drink on an aircraft.</li> <li>• Packs of plastic straws will be available from authorised businesses and organisations including pharmacies, medical and dental care places, local government customer service centres, charities, nursing homes, aged care homes, palliative, respite, and rehabilitation service locations. However, these places will not be mandated to supply. Wholesalers of plastic straws can continue to provide to these exempt places.</li> <li>• A prescribed plastic bag does not include — (b) an unsealed bag that is the packaging in which perishable food is offered for sale; or (c) a bag that is, or is an integral part of, the packaging in which goods are sealed for sale; or (d) a carry bag or barrier bag that is made from 1 or more of the following fabrics (whether or not mixed with a fabric that is not made from plastic) — (i) woven polypropylene (whether or not it is insulated for the purpose of keeping items cold); (ii) nylon; (iii) polyester; or (e) a carry bag that is made from non-woven polypropylene (whether or not mixed with a fabric that is not made from plastic) if — the bag has sewn, rather than heat-welded, seams; and (ii) the fabric has a minimum weight of 90 grams per square metre measured as a single layer of fabric.</li> </ul> <p>The above exemptions have been directly sourced from the <a href="#">Western Australian Government Gazette 2023</a> containing amended regulations to single-use plastic bans and the <a href="#">Environmental Protection (Prohibited Plastics and Balloons) Regulations 2018</a> as of 20 June 2023.</p>

# Exemptions

State	Exemption/s
NSW	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• People with a disability or medical issue in certain settings are permitted to continue using single-use plastic straws or individuals/organisations acting on behalf of this individual.</li> <li>• Plastic-lined paper plates and bowls will be exempt until 1 November 2024.</li> <li>• Plastic single-use cotton buds and plastic single-use bowls can continue to be supplied for medical, scientific and forensic purposes subject to certain conditions. This exemption is intended to be reviewed by the EPA after two years (1 November 2024) but may still be reviewed at any time.</li> <li>• Supply of plastic single-use cutlery has a time-limited exemption in certain circumstances and settings. 'Exempt facilities' such as correctional and mental health facilities where its use is required to help prevent violence, injury or harm (until 31 October 2024, subject to the conditions of the exemption). It also includes public hospitals in exceptional or emergency situations when they are prevented from using alternative cutlery (until 31 October 2023, subject to the conditions of the exemption).</li> </ul> <p>The above exemptions have been sourced from <a href="#">NSW EPA Exemptions Guidance</a> webpage as of 20 June 2023.</p>
VIC	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• People with a disability or medical issue in certain settings are permitted to continue using single-use plastic straws.</li> <li>• Plastic cotton bud sticks will be available for testing carried out for scientific, medical, forensic or law enforcement purposes.</li> <li>• Single-use plastic cutlery used in correctional or custodial settings and mental health facilities, for safety purposes.</li> <li>• Items 'integrated' into food or beverage packaging (e.g., a single-use plastic spoon attached to a yogurt tub) can continue to be used up until 1 January 2026.</li> <li>• Plastic lined paper plates can continue to be used until 1 November 2024.</li> </ul> <p>The above exemptions have been sourced from the <a href="#">Victoria Government's information on Single-use Plastics Ban's</a> website as of 20 June 2023.</p>
SA	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Single-use plastic drinking straws for disability or medical needs.</li> <li>• Pre-packaged and attached products.</li> <li>• Single-use plastic spoons for clinical purposes.</li> </ul> <p>The above exemptions have been sourced from the Government of South Australia's '<a href="#">Exemptions Under The Single-Use and Other Plastic Products (Waste Avoidance) Act 2020</a>' as of 20 June 2023.</p>
QLD	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Clinics or facilities that provide healthcare to individuals with a disability or health need, hospitals, dental clinics, medical clinics, pharmacies, aged care facilities and medical suppliers are exempt from the ban. Suppliers, distributors, and wholesalers can continue to sell banned items to these exempt businesses.</li> </ul> <p>The above exemptions have been sourced from the <a href="#">Queensland Government Single-use plastic items ban information</a> website as of 20 June 2023.</p>
ACT	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Businesses and healthcare entities can supply single-use plastic straws to people with a disability or medical issue without them having to provide proof of need, however these items cannot be displayed. Healthcare entities providing care or products to people with a disability or healthcare need may display and supply single-use plastic straws. Examples of healthcare entities include hospitals, aged care or disability facilities or pharmacies.</li> <li>• Plastic stick cotton buds can be supplied for scientific, forensic or medical purposes which would be compromised by the use of alternative products.</li> <li>• Integrated packaging items e.g., a straw attached to a juice box.</li> <li>• Banned single-use plastic cutlery can still be supplied in detainee or mental health settings.</li> <li>• Single-use plastic items purchased before the ban can continue to be used in domestic settings.</li> <li>• Single-use plastic bowls designed or intended to have a spill-proof lid are exempt. Plastic bowls can be supplied for scientific, forensic or medical purposes which would be comprised by the use of alternative products. Paper or cardboard bowls with a plastic lining or coating can continue to be used until 31 October 2024.</li> <li>• Paper or cardboard plates with a plastic lining or coating can continue to be used until 31 October 2024.</li> </ul> <p>The above exemptions have been sourced from the <a href="#">ACT Government Single-use plastic ban</a> information website as of 7 July 2023.</p>

# Exemptions

State	Exemption/s
TAS	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>The By-Law does not apply to pre-packed fruit and vegetables, soft plastics and plastic bags, and non-food related plastics.</li> </ul> <p>The above exemptions have been sourced from <a href="#">Hobart City's Single-use Plastic By-Law</a> as of 20 June 2023.</p>
AUSTRALIA	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>The industry led voluntary phase out of EPS in Australia does not include EPS used for business-to-business packaging, such as fresh produce boxes; specialist packaging used in medical applications, for example, organ transport or pharmaceuticals; EPS used in building and construction; and/or business-to-consumer packaging where there is a demonstrated and effective reuse model in operation, for example bulk cold home-delivered meal services.</li> </ul> <p>The above exemptions have been sourced from the <a href="#">Australian Government's National Plastics Plan— Pathway to more sustainable use of expanded polystyrene (EPS)</a> as of 20 June 2023.</p>
NEW ZEALAND	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Plastic stemmed cotton buds used as a medical device (defined by section 3A of the Medicines Act) and not sold by retail; in a veterinary clinic for diagnosis or sampling; in a commercial food laboratory for food sampling; in a laboratory for scientific investigation; as part of a testing kit for medical or scientific matter, including for infection or immunity and to produce a result without analysis at a laboratory.</li> <li>Expanded polystyrene used to transport cold items e.g., medicines or seafood, and protective packaging for electronics and homeware items are excluded from the ban.</li> <li>Single-use plastic drinking straws that are attached to a beverage box by a machine (e.g., juice or milk boxes) or are an integral part of the packaging are exempt until 1 January 2026. Disabled people and those with health conditions (or someone acting on their behalf) will still be able to access and use single-use plastic drinking straws if they need them. Some entities and businesses are permitted to sell or provide single-use plastic drinking straws to people who need them, including supermarkets, pharmacies, hospitality businesses, education entities, charitable entities, health and disability support services. A manufacturer or wholesale supplier can continue to supply single-use plastic drinking straws to these entities. Disabled people and those with a health condition can buy single-use plastic drinking straws from retailers online.</li> <li>The single-use plastic tableware and cutlery ban does not include plastic containers (i.e. a plastic bowl or a plate that is part of a container with a lid); plastic items that are not used for eating or preparing food (e.g. measuring spoons or scoops such as those provided with medicine, supplements, infant formula or washing powder); and tableware made of other materials (e.g. paper, bamboo or sugarcane pulp) that is plastic lined.</li> <li>Single-use plastic bags that are part of the packaging for pre-packaged produce are excluded from the ban.</li> <li>Non-home compostable plastic produce labels ban excludes labels used on produce intended for export; produce labelled prior to 1 July 2023 and are already in the supply chain; the label adhesive (glue) is not required to be home compostable until 1 July 2025; and labels used on imported produce are not required to be home compostable until 1 July 2025.</li> </ul> <p>The above exemptions have been sourced from New Zealand's Ministry for the Environment '<a href="#">Phasing out hard-to-recycle and single-use plastics</a>' website as of 20 June 2023.</p>