

Requirements and Guidelines for Shipping Gifts to Thailand

A number of imported gifts were caged at the Thai Customs Department recently. FedEx Thailand receives inbound shipments daily that contain restricted goods, which require that the recipients register with the Thai Customs Department as an Importer and that the shipment go through the formal clearance process. In addition, an advance import license or license waiver from a specific controlling agency is required, and the shipment will be subject to Customs import duty and taxes imposed based on Customs Act B.E. 2560, Customs Tariff Decree B.E 2530 and other laws.

Recipients who import gifts, which are restricted goods, without an import license and are not registered with the Thai Customs Department as an Importer and have not assigned FedEx to be their broker before the shipment arrives in Thailand, will have to go through the clearance process, which can take at least 28 days after the shipment's arrival.

To ensure customers are aware of the regulations around importing gifts so they have a smooth customs clearance experience, FedEx Express is reminding all customers who import gifts during this festive season about the requirements and guidelines for shipping gifts to Thailand.

GENERAL GUIDELINES

Gifts are defined as goods sent from an individual to another with no commercial nature.

Gifts which are not restricted Goods	Subject to Duty and Taxes	Clearance Process
CIF value under 1,500 THB (CIF < 48 USD)	Exemption	Express Clearance
Shipment value under 40,000 THB (FOB < 1,290 USD)	Yes	Express Clearance
Shipment value above 40,000 THB (FOB > 1,290 USD)	Yes	Formal Clearance*
Gifts which are restricted Goods	Yes	Formal Clearance*

*The recipient is required to register with Royal Thai Customs as an Importer.

Gifts, which are restricted goods, listed below require additional arrangements.

- Food, snacks, vitamins, supplements, cosmetics subject to FDA review
- Alcoholic and non-alcoholic beverages subject to FDA review and an excise tax
- Perfumes subject to FDA review and an excise tax



- Toys for children, e.g. LEGO, Barbie, Dolls, Plasticine require a TISI import license
- Electronic devices, e.g. Tablet, Mobile Phone, Drone require an NBTC import license

REQUIRED DOCUMENTATION

To register to be an importer under the formal clearance process, the following documentation is required for shipments.

• The Air Waybill and Commercial Invoice must list out a clear description of the goods. The word "gifts" in general is not acceptable for customs clearance.

• The recipient name must be the same as it appears on the passport (for foreigners) or National ID (for Thai citizens) and the complete address and phone number of the consignee must be provided.

• A detailed description of the items, including if the item is homemade or store bought (i.e. homemade walnut fudge for personal consumption; not for resale) and the value of each item is required.

• A photocopy of the passport (foreigner) or National ID Card (Thai citizen) must be provided with the recipient's signature.

• A Customs Importer registration form with the recipient's signature must be provided.

• The original passport (foreigner) or National ID (Thai citizen) of the recipient must be shown for verification.

SPECIAL REQUIREMENTS

For Food and Drug Administration (FDA) related shipments, compliance with the following is required.

• Perishable foodstuffs: These are prohibited for shipment using FedEx International Express Service.

• Non-Perishable Food Items: Homemade or store-bought food items shipped from an individual requires advance submission of Prior Notice to the FDA.

• Specialty baskets and items ordered through an online commercial establishment and sent to an individual require advance submission of Prior Notice to the FDA.

• If shipped person to person, the Air Waybill and Commercial Invoice must clearly show a detailed description of each item, including the ingredients for FDA review.

• Shipments from a business to an individual, individual to a business or business to business require Prior Notice to the FDA regardless of value.

IMPORTANT – If any FDA-related single shipment exceeds the quantity of an import license waiver allowance, the entire shipment may be confiscated by the agency or partial abandonment of the shipment may be required.

SPECIAL REQUIREMENTS

For Thai Industry Standards Institute (TISI) related shipments:



• The recipient is responsible for obtaining the import license from TISI within 30 days of the shipment's arrival.

SPECIAL REQUIREMENTS

For National Broadcasting and Telecommunications (NBTC) related shipments:

• The recipient is responsible for obtaining the import license from NBTC within 30 days of the shipment's arrival.

SPECIAL REQUIREMENTS

Other

• Alcoholic Beverages, Cigars and Cigarettes: Such shipments from an individual to an individual are prohibited using FedEx International Express Service.

• Perfumes containing alcohol require formal entry and are subject to duty, value added and excise tax assessments along with an FDA review process.

• Personal and Household effects purchased solely for the personal use of an individual and shipped unaccompanied, will be entered under separate customs provisions, not as a gift.

NON-COMPLIANCE RAMIFICATIONS

Potential clearance service delays along with customs fines and penalties.

Prohibited Goods listed below cannot be shipped to Thailand

Obscene objects, Pornography, Lust treatment products, Baraku, Shisha, Hookah, Marijuana, Hemp, Graven Images (religious idols), Fake-branded products, Electronic cigarettes