

# CHEMEXCIL Certificate Registration and RCMC Application Guide

For businesses involved in chemical exports from India, completing the right registrations is an important part of starting and maintaining an export operation. One of the registrations that often comes up for chemical exporters is the Registration-cum-Membership Certificate, commonly known as RCMC, issued through the relevant Export Promotion Council.



## CHEMEXCIL Certificate Registration

CHEMEXCIL is the Basic Chemicals, Cosmetics & Dyes Export Promotion Council.  
Eligible exporters can obtain membership and e-RCMC through the applicable process.

| Who Needs It?                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                   | Key Requirements                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                     | Registration Process                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                     | Benefits                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                            |
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|  <p>Manufacturers, exporters and trading businesses involved in basic chemicals, cosmetics and dyes.</p>  <p>Businesses planning to export these products from India.</p> |  <p>Business registration and identity proof</p>  <p>Product details and export plan</p>  <p>Premises and infrastructure details</p>  <p>Supporting documents as per CHEMEXCIL norms</p> |  <ol style="list-style-type: none"><li> Apply online through the CHEMEXCIL portal</li><li> Submit required documents and details</li><li> Verification and review by the council</li><li> Get membership and e-RCMC certificate</li></ol> |  <p>Access to global markets and new buyers</p>  <p>Export promotion and industry support</p>  <p>Regulatory compliance and credibility</p>  <p>Stronger business network and opportunities</p> |

 Get your CHEMEXCIL membership and e-RCMC with the right guidance and support from **Agile Regulatory**.

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CHEMEXCIL, or the Basic Chemicals, Cosmetics & Dyes Export Promotion Council, works with exporters dealing in products covered under its sector. It was established in 1963 under the Ministry of Commerce and Industry to promote exports of chemicals, dyes and dye intermediates, cosmetics, essential oils, speciality chemicals and related products.

A common point of confusion is the difference between CHEMEXCIL membership and RCMC. They are connected, but they are not the same document. CHEMEXCIL states that membership

is a requirement for obtaining its RCMC, while the RCMC is issued under the Foreign Trade Policy framework.

This guide explains how the process works, what documents may be needed, the applicable fee structure and how exporters can approach the registration process correctly.

## **What Is CHEMEXCIL Certificate Registration?**

The term [CHEMEXCIL Certificate Registration](#) is commonly used by businesses when referring to obtaining CHEMEXCIL membership and the associated RCMC for eligible chemical export activities.

CHEMEXCIL membership is available to legal entities engaged in the export of chemicals covered by the Council. The Council allows registration under categories such as Merchant Exporter, Manufacturer Exporter and Merchant-cum-Manufacturer Exporter, depending on the nature of the business and supporting documents.

For a new exporter, it is useful to first identify whether the products being exported fall within CHEMEXCIL's product and HS-code coverage. This can prevent problems later when preparing the application.

## **Why Is RCMC Relevant for Chemical Exporters?**

RCMC stands for Registration-cum-Membership Certificate. It provides formal recognition of an exporter with the relevant Export Promotion Council for the products covered by that Council.

CHEMEXCIL's FAQ explains that membership is a pre-condition for obtaining its RCMC. The Council also states that chemical exporters can become members even when their export performance is currently zero.

RCMC can also become relevant when an exporter wants to access benefits or assistance available under the Foreign Trade Policy. CHEMEXCIL specifically notes that registration with the Council becomes relevant for exporters seeking government incentives and assistance provided under the Foreign Trade Policy.

Therefore, businesses should not treat RCMC as just another certificate to collect. The requirement should be assessed according to the exporter's products, business structure and intended use.

## **Role of DGFT in the RCMC Application**

The Directorate General of Foreign Trade (DGFT) manages India's foreign trade framework and provides the digital platform used for e-RCMC applications.

Since April 1, 2022, issuance and renewal of RCMC by Export Promotion Councils has been carried out through the DGFT common digital platform. CHEMEXCIL's current membership information directs exporters to the [DGFT portal](#) for new, renewal and amendment applications.

**For a fresh application, an exporter generally needs to:**

1. Access the DGFT portal.
2. Select the e-RCMC service.
3. Start a fresh RCMC application.
4. Select CHEMEXCIL as the relevant council.
5. Enter the required business and export information.
6. Upload the supporting documents.
7. Complete the applicable payment.
8. Submit the application for processing.

The exact screens and requirements can change, so exporters should check the current DGFT instructions before submitting an application.

## Importance of IEC Before Applying

The [Importer Exporter Code](#), or IEC, is an important starting point for an export business. ICEGATE describes IEC as a 10-digit identification number issued by DGFT.

CHEMEXCIL also specifies that an IEC is required for obtaining membership and RCMC. Its RCMC documentation calls for a self-attested copy of the IEC issued by DGFT.

Businesses should therefore check that the IEC details match their current legal name, address and other business information before beginning the RCMC application. Differences between records can create avoidable documentation issues.

## Documents Required for CHEMEXCIL RCMC Application

The document list can vary according to whether the applicant is a manufacturer exporter, merchant exporter or another eligible business category.

**Common documents mentioned by CHEMEXCIL include:**

- IEC copy
- PAN copy
- GST registration copy
- CA-certified export turnover details
- Product list with HS codes
- Company or business constitution documents
- Partnership deed for partnership firms or LLPs, where applicable

- Udyam/Udyog Aadhaar or IEM/SIA-related documents for applicable manufacturers
- State Pollution Control Board document for applicable manufacturer exporters
- Director details with DIN and contact information
- Valid Export House or Star Export House certificate, where applicable
- ICEGATE user ID details

CHEMEXCIL's current published requirements also state that CA-certified export turnover for the last three financial years is required. For manufacturer exporters, additional manufacturing-related documents may be required.

It is a good practice to prepare these documents before opening the application so that information can be entered consistently.

## ICEGATE and Its Place in the Export Process

ICEGATE is the electronic interface used by Indian Customs for several customs-related processes. It is different from the [RCMC registration](#) itself.

For CHEMEXCIL's RCMC documentation, the Council lists the member's Customs website, or ICEGATE, user ID among the information required for manufacturer and merchant exporters.

This makes it important for exporters to maintain consistent business information across DGFT, customs-related records and their CHEMEXCIL membership records.

If an exporter changes its legal name, address, constitution or other important details, the relevant records should be reviewed and amended where required.

## CHEMEXCIL Membership and RCMC Fees

The cost of registration is not necessarily a single fixed "RCMC fee." CHEMEXCIL states that there is no separate fee for obtaining the RCMC itself; membership is required, and the applicable membership charges are paid according to the Council's fee structure.

For FY 2026–27, CHEMEXCIL's published fee structure bases renewal membership fees on the FOB value of exports for FY 2024–25. The published renewal amounts range from ₹6,500 plus 18% GST for exports up to ₹10 lakh to ₹55,000 plus 18% GST for exports above ₹1,000 crore.

**For fresh members, the published entrance fees include:**

- Large-scale manufacturer exporter: ₹10,500
- Small-scale exporter with certified three-year export turnover: ₹2,000
- Small-scale manufacturer exporter with certified three-year export turnover of nil: ₹500
- Merchant exporter: ₹3,500

The published fee structure also notes that eligible start-ups and new-entry MSMEs with zero export turnover are charged ₹1,000 in addition to the one-time ₹500 entrance fee, plus applicable GST.

Because fee structures can be revised, exporters should verify the applicable amount for the financial year in which they submit their application.

## How Long Does the RCMC Process Take?

The time required depends on the completeness of the application, supporting documents and any clarification requested during processing.

CHEMEXCIL's FAQ states that, after receiving the application and supporting documents, membership and the RCMC may be issued within a maximum of five days.

However, applicants should not assume that every application will follow the same timeline. Missing documents, inconsistent information or additional verification can affect processing.

## Common Mistakes to Avoid

A few simple checks can make the process smoother. First, make sure the product list and HS codes are accurate. Secondly, check that the business name and address are consistent across the IEC, GST and other records.

Manufacturers should also keep their manufacturing-related certificates and turnover documents updated. Another common issue is overlooking annual membership renewal. CHEMEXCIL states that membership subscription is payable every year and the membership year runs from April to March.

For FY 2026–27, CHEMEXCIL has specifically requested members to renew their RCMC through the DGFT portal and renew their Council membership, along with updating relevant company records.

## How Agile Regulatory Can Help

For chemical exporters, the registration process involves more than filling in an online form. Product classification, business documents, IEC details, turnover records and council requirements all need to be checked together.

[Agile Regulatory](#) can assist businesses with understanding the CHEMEXCIL registration requirements, preparing documentation, reviewing application information and coordinating the registration process.

The objective is to keep the documentation organised and reduce avoidable errors before submission. Businesses can also receive guidance on related export registrations and compliance requirements based on their individual business activities.

## **Frequently Asked Questions**

### **Is CHEMEXCIL membership the same as RCMC?**

No. CHEMEXCIL states that membership and RCMC are different documents. Membership is a prerequisite for obtaining the RCMC from the Council.

### **Is IEC required for CHEMEXCIL RCMC?**

Yes. CHEMEXCIL states that an IEC is required for obtaining its membership and RCMC.

### **Is there a separate RCMC fee?**

CHEMEXCIL states that there is no separate fee for obtaining the RCMC. Applicable membership fees are payable according to the Council's fee structure.

### **Can a new exporter apply for CHEMEXCIL membership?**

Yes. CHEMEXCIL states that exporters with zero export performance can also enrol as members.

### **How often does CHEMEXCIL membership need to be renewed?**

Membership is renewed annually. CHEMEXCIL states that the annual subscription becomes due on April 1 and should be paid by June 30.

### **Can the RCMC be amended?**

Yes. Changes such as address, constitution or company details may require amendment. CHEMEXCIL's current information lists an administrative charge of ₹1,180, including GST, for RCMC amendments.

## **Final Thoughts**

[CHEMEXCIL registration](#) and RCMC are important considerations for eligible chemical exporters, particularly businesses looking to maintain proper export documentation and access applicable benefits under the Foreign Trade Policy.

The process starts with the basics: a valid IEC, correct business information, suitable product and HS-code details and properly prepared supporting documents. From there, the e-RCMC application is submitted through the DGFT platform, while customs-related requirements such as ICEGATE should be kept consistent with the exporter's records.

For businesses unfamiliar with export compliance, professional assistance can make the documentation and application process easier to manage while keeping the focus on accurate and current information.