

IMMEX Program

According to Asesores St Stratego, the Manufacturing, Maquiladora and Export Services Program most commonly known as IMMEX, is a promotion instrument through which companies are allowed to temporarily import the goods necessary to be used in an industrial or service process destined for the elaboration, transformation or repair of merchandise of foreign origin imported temporarily for export or for the provision of export services, without covering the payment of the general import tax (IGI), the value added tax (IVA) and, where appropriate, the countervailing duties.

In other words, it is a program that enables foreign companies to operate in Mexico under a preferential, low-tax cost structure, while still taking advantage of Mexico's lower-cost labor.

Benefits: The IMMEX program provides holders the opportunity to temporarily import, free of import tax and VAT, the necessary goods for an industrial process or service to produce, transform or repair foreign goods temporarily imported for subsequent export or the provision of export services.

These goods are classified as follows:

1. Raw materials, parts and components which are to be totally integrated into export goods; fuels, lubricants and other materials for consumption during the production process of export goods; containers and packaging; labeling and leaflets.
2. Shipping containers and boxes.
3. Machinery, equipment, tools, instruments, molds and spare parts for the production process; equipment and devices for contamination control, research or training, industrial security, telecommunications and computing, laboratory, measurement, product testing and quality control; and those involved in handling materials directly related to export goods and others linked to the production process; administrative development equipment.

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IMMEX Program Types

1. **IMMEX Holding Company Program:** the manufacturing operations of a certified holding company and one or more subsidiaries are included in the same program.
2. **IMMEX Industrial Program:** goods are manufactured or transformed for subsequent export through an industrial process.
3. **IMMEX Services Program:** export goods are serviced, or export services are provided, solely to develop those activities established by the Secretariat, following review by the Ministry of Finance and Public Credit.
4. **IMMEX Shelter Program:** one or more foreign companies provide technology and production material, without direct involvement in the Program.
5. **IMMEX Outsourcing Program:** a certified company lacks the facilities to perform production processes itself and performs the manufacturing operations through a third party who it registers in its Program.

REQUIREMENTS AND OBLIGATIONS

- Perform annual sales abroad for a value greater than 500,000 United States dollars, or its equivalent in national currency, or invoice exports, at least for 10% of its total turnover.
- Comply with the provisions of the Program that was authorized.
- To allocate the merchandise temporarily imported under their Program for the purposes that were authorized for them.
- Return the merchandise in the corresponding terms according to what is established in the Law or in this Decree.
- Maintain the merchandise that has been temporarily imported at the address(es) registered in the Program.

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- Notify to Authority:
 - Of the changes in the data that has been stated in the application for the approval of the Program, such as the name or corporate name, Federal Taxpayers Registration and the fiscal domicile.
 - Of the change of the domicile(s) registered in the Program to carry out its operations and those of export sub-manufacturing, at least three business days in advance of the one in which the transfer of temporarily imported merchandise takes place under the Program to the new address.

References:

- Asesores St. Stratego. (n.d.). Retrieved from: <https://www.asesores-stratego.com/newsletters/immex-program-benefits/>
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