

# Food Allergens: your obligations as a food business

## Legal Requirement

Under the Australian, New Zealand Food Standards Code standard 1.2.3 declaration of allergens is a legal requirement.

As a food business you are required to declare the following allergens if you use them in any food or drink you sell:

- Tree nuts
- Eggs
- Lupins
- Soy
- Crustaceans
- Peanuts
- Milk
- Fish
- Sesame
- Gluten

## What does it mean by Declared?

Under the Food Standards Code 1.2.1 Clause 9(6) for food containing allergens that are not required to have a label, the information must either be displayed in connection with the displayed food or provided to purchaser if requested.

## What you can do to ensure your obligations are met?

Use the following guideline to assist with the management of the food allergens within your food business.

### 1. Allergen Food Identification Table

This document needs to have clear, up to date and accurate information on the allergy status of foods provided. The table will identify the allergens in each food item/meal that is sold to a customer.

It's important to update the table when there is either a menu change or ingredient substitute.

### 2. Food Preparation Procedures for Allergen Free Foods.

The next step is to develop a written procedure to ensure the allergy free food is not cross contaminated with an allergen when preparing food.

### 3. Food Allergen Staff Training

To ensure all staff are informed and aware of the seriousness of the impact of food allergens, all staff are encouraged to undergo food allergen training. To access a free online allergy awareness training course, visit [www.foodallergytraining.org.au](http://www.foodallergytraining.org.au)

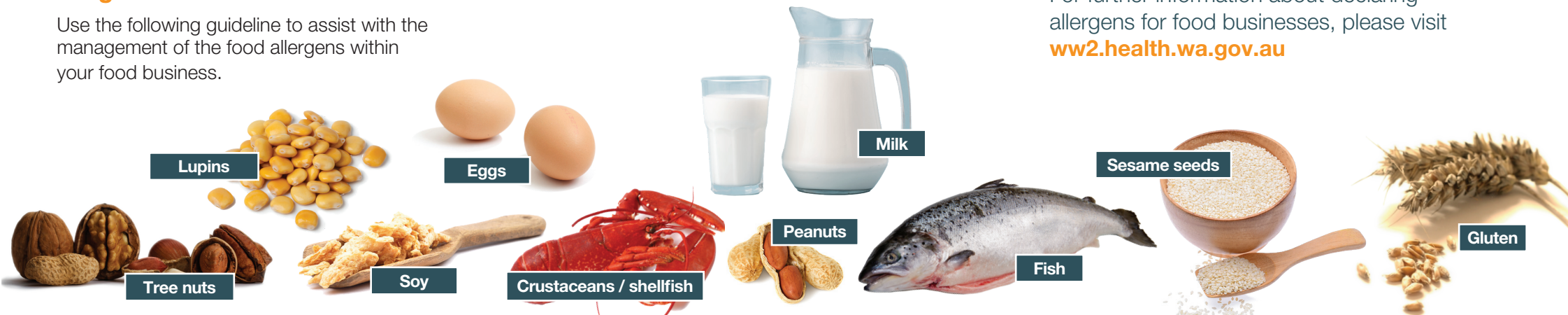
## In Summary

1. Know what is in your food
2. Listen carefully to customers when they are asking about allergens in food
3. Prepare allergen free food safely and separately
4. Train staff in food allergens.

## What happens if you don't declare?

The WA Food Act 2008, Section 16, relates to a food business falsely describing food causing physical harm. This may apply when a consumer requests a food to not contain a certain ingredient (food allergen) and relies on the information provided by the food business to be correct. If the information given is false and revealed that the food contains a food allergen, an offence is committed and if convicted may be penalised up to \$75,000.

For further information about declaring allergens for food businesses, please visit [www2.health.wa.gov.au](http://www2.health.wa.gov.au)



# Food Allergen Identification Table

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