



How do I get the Blue Angel?

Questions and answers about applying for the Blue Angel environmental label

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Federal Ministry for the Environment, Nature Conservation and Nuclear Safety (BMU)
Federal Environmental Agency (UBA) • Environmental Label Jury • RAL gGmbH

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I want to depict the Blue Angel on my product.



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A) Do you want to apply for the environmental label for your own product?

Then please follow the instructions on the following pages.

B) Do you already have a product that is certified with the Blue Angel and you now want to apply to use the label under a different product name and/or with a different distributor (OEM Product/Rebrand)?

Please submit a contract extension via our Web Portal:

<https://portal.ral-umwelt.de>

C) Do you simply want to use the Blue Angel logo from your supplier/dealer/manufacturer?

In order to depict the logo on your product, it requires a valid Contract on the Use of the Environmental Label in which you are authorized to use the logo as a label user.

Contact the supplier/dealer/manufacturer of the product and ask them to extend their Contract on the Use of the Environmental Label.

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Costs and term of the contract

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A) What costs can I expect?

A one-off handling fee is charged for making the application. This fee is €400 for a base contract and €200 for an extension contract (plus VAT in each case).

After concluding the Contract on the Use of the Environmental Label, a yearly fee is also charged. This fee is charged according to a graduated scale based on the annual sales of the product certified with the Blue Angel.

You will find an overview of the graduated fees at <https://www.blauer-engel.de/en/certification/costs-applying-label>

B) How long can I use the environmental label for?

The term of the contract is directly linked to the term of validity of the associated Basic Award Criteria. You can find the term of validity under Paragraph 5 of the Basic Award Criteria or online in the list of Basic Award Criteria.

<https://www.blauer-engel.de/en/certification/basic-award-criteria>

Basic Award Criteria can be extended up to one year before they expire by the Environmental Label Jury. If the Basic Award Criteria expire on 31 December of a particular year, the licence holder will receive notification of the termination of the Contract on the Use of the Environmental Label by 31 March of the same year at the latest.

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Which Basic Award Criteria are valid for my product/service?



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A) For which products/services can I submit an application?

The titles of the various Basic Award Criteria describe which products/services can be certified with the Blue Angel.

You will find a list of all of the currently valid Basic Award Criteria at <https://www.blauer-engel.de/en/certification/basic-award-criteria>

Alternatively, you can also check the product directory:

<https://www.blauer-engel.de/en/products/products-list-a-z>

B) What should I do if I cannot find any Basic Award Criteria for my product/service?

Please check whether an investigative order has already been submitted for your product/service here: <https://www.blauer-engel.de/en/certification/certification-your-products/new-proposals-and-investigative-orders>

If not, you can submit a new proposal. Further information is available at:

<https://www.blauer-engel.de/en/certification/certification-your-products/new-proposals-and-investigative-orders>

If your product/service is not listed, please contact our
Service Hotline on Tel.: +49 (0)228-68895-190

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Does my product come under the scope of the criteria (Paragraph 2)?



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To find out whether the Basic Award Criteria cover your product/ service, please check the scope of the Basic Award Criteria under Paragraph 2.

A) Product is included

Please download the ZIP file or the corresponding Basic Award Criteria.

This usually includes:

- Basic Award Criteria as a PDF file
- Annexes to the contract
- Checklist

B) Product is not included

Check the list of all Basic Award Criteria to see whether your product comes under the scope of another Basic Award Criteria.

This is often the case for products made from paper that is already certified with the Blue Angel. These products come under the scope of other Basic Award Criteria, e.g. printed matter according to DE-UZ 195 or finished products made from recycled paper according to DE-UZ 14b.

If you discover that there are no Basic Award Criteria for your product, please contact our **Service Hotline on Tel.: +49 (0)228-68895-190**

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What requirements/verifications have to be fulfilled/submitted?

Familiarise yourself with the requirements in the Basic Award Criteria (Paragraph 3)!

You will find the required compliance verifications directly below the requirements.

All verifications must be submitted. Alongside the forms provided, you may also need to submit e.g. test reports, manufacturer declarations, safety data sheets and certificates/documents depending on the Basic Award Criteria.

Please comply with the requirements for the test methods and suitable laboratories that are defined for the compliance verifications.

Observe the requirements for the validity of the documents/test reports/certificates and safety data sheets. The validity is stated in the Basic Award Criteria in some cases.

Please note that some of the Basic Award Criteria require you to carry out repeat testing and resubmit the necessary verifications during the term of the contract.



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Where can I find the application documents?

The Basic Award Criteria are available as a PDF file on the website under <https://www.blauer-engel.de/en/certification/basic-award-criteria> or in the corresponding ZIP file. The application documents can be found in the ZIP file in the folder “Annexes”.

You can use the checklist that is also enclosed to find out which documents have to be submitted. Note: The checklist is included in Annex 1 to the contract in some Basic Award Criteria.

All of the application documents are also available in English. Please change the language on the website to access the English versions of the Basic Award Criteria.



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I cannot find some of the annexes

Most of the annexes are prepared by us as standardised forms. These forms should be used for the application. Individual declarations from suppliers are only accepted in exceptional cases.

Some annexes are part of the contract but have not been prepared by us as standardised forms (e.g. balance sheets, purchasing lists, waste management, certification documents, etc.). Depending on the Basic Award Criteria, the required verifications may also be assigned a specific annex number. Even if there is no template available for these documents, they are still part of the application and must be submitted.



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Do I have to complete all of the annexes myself?

Annex 1 includes legally binding declarations from the applicant and must **always** be completed by the applicant.

The titles of all the other annexes indicate who has to complete the annex in each case. This could be the applicant, manufacturer, supplier, testing institution or auditor.

Please ensure that the submitted documents are legally binding.



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Have I
forgotten
anything?

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Please carefully check through **Annex 1** or the **checklist** again.

The **samples** required in some Basic Award Criteria should be sent to the following address:

The address is:

RAL gemeinnützige GmbH
Environment Department
Fränkische Straße 7
53229 Bonn, Germany

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Where can I submit my application?

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Please only submit the application via the Web Portal

<https://portal.ral-umwelt.de>

You will require your RAL customer number in order to register on the Web Portal:

If you are already a registered customer, you can get the customer number from

- our **Service Hotline (0228-68895-190)**
- umweltzeichen@ral.de
- your usual contact at RAL gGmbH

New customers will receive their customer numbers after submitting the registration form at the end of the user guide (<https://portal.ral-umwelt.de/RALUmwelt/Anleitung>) to umweltzeichen@ral.de

Please ensure that the submitted documents are as complete as possible because incomplete applications will lead to huge delays in the processing of the application.

Further information is also available in our FAQs: <https://www.blauer-engel.de/en/certification/certification-your-product/faqs-companies>

Thank you from the awarding body for the Blue Angel environmental label!



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