

## GENERALIZED SYSTEM OF PREFERENCES - UNITED STATES

## GUIDE

<b>A - BASIC INFORMATION:</b>
1) Member implementing the PTA: <b>United States</b>
2) Date PTA entered into force: <b>Date: 1 January 1976</b> <b>Link: <a href="https://www.gpo.gov/fdsys/pkg/STATUTE-88/pdf/STATUTE-88-Pg1978-2.pdf">https://www.gpo.gov/fdsys/pkg/STATUTE-88/pdf/STATUTE-88-Pg1978-2.pdf</a></b>
3) Date of last renewal of the PTA (where applicable): <b>Date: 29 June 2015</b>  <b>Link to Public Law 114-27: <a href="https://www.congress.gov/114/plaws/publ27/PLAW-114publ27.pdf">https://www.congress.gov/114/plaws/publ27/PLAW-114publ27.pdf</a></b>
4) Date of notification to the GATT/WTO and symbol of GATT/WTO documents: <b>Date: 9 January 1976</b> <b>GATT document <a href="#">L/4299</a></b>
5) Date of expiration of PTA: <b>31 December 2017</b>
6) Enactment of PTA, Related Legislation and Publication of PTA modifications: <b>a) Trade Act of 1974 (19 USC 2461-2467):</b> <b><a href="https://www.gpo.gov/fdsys/pkg/STATUTE-88/pdf/STATUTE-88-Pg1978-2.pdf">https://www.gpo.gov/fdsys/pkg/STATUTE-88/pdf/STATUTE-88-Pg1978-2.pdf</a></b>  <b>b) USTR Regulations pertaining to the GSP (15 CFR 2007)</b> <b><a href="http://www.ecfr.gov/cgi-bin/text-idx?SID=3f7d40775be2c81a310ed719ee5e41ef&amp;mc=true&amp;node=pt15.3.2007&amp;rgn=div5">http://www.ecfr.gov/cgi-bin/text-idx?SID=3f7d40775be2c81a310ed719ee5e41ef&amp;mc=true&amp;node=pt15.3.2007&amp;rgn=div5</a></b>  <b>c) Customs regulations pertaining to the GSP (19 CFR 10.171-10.178)</b> <b><a href="http://www.ecfr.gov/cgi-bin/text-idx?SID=3f7d40775be2c81a310ed719ee5e41ef&amp;mc=true&amp;node=sg19.1.10_1153.sg31&amp;rgn=div7">http://www.ecfr.gov/cgi-bin/text-idx?SID=3f7d40775be2c81a310ed719ee5e41ef&amp;mc=true&amp;node=sg19.1.10_1153.sg31&amp;rgn=div7</a></b>  <b>d) Modifications made by Presidential Proclamation can be found in the GSP Federal Register notices:</b> <b><a href="https://ustr.gov/issue-areas/trade-development/preference-programs/generalized-system-preference-gsp#tab-frn">https://ustr.gov/issue-areas/trade-development/preference-programs/generalized-system-preference-gsp#tab-frn</a></b>
7) Authority(ies) granting the beneficial treatment: <b>President of the United States <a href="http://www.whitehouse.gov">http://www.whitehouse.gov</a></b>
8) National authorities in charge of PTA management: <b>Office of the US Trade Representative <a href="http://www.ustr.gov">http://www.ustr.gov</a></b>
<b>B – REFERENCES TO INFORMATION ABOUT:</b>
<b>I. BENEFICIARIES</b>
(a) Number and List of Beneficiaries: <b>As of September 2016: 122</b>  <b>The list of current beneficiaries can be found in General Note 4 of the Harmonized Tariff Schedule of the United States (HTSUS). The HTSUS is available here:</b> <b><a href="https://hts.usitc.gov/current">https://hts.usitc.gov/current</a></b>

(b) *Eligibility:*

**19 USC Section 2462**

<https://www.gpo.gov/fdsys/pkg/USCODE-2014-title19/pdf/USCODE-2014-title19-chap12.pdf>

(c) *Restrictions to Eligibility:*

**19 USC Section 2462**

<https://www.gpo.gov/fdsys/pkg/USCODE-2014-title19/pdf/USCODE-2014-title19-chap12.pdf>

(d) *Modification to Beneficiaries List:*

**i) 19 USC Section 2462**

<https://www.gpo.gov/fdsys/pkg/USCODE-2014-title19/pdf/USCODE-2014-title19-chap12.pdf>

**ii) Announcements of modifications can be found in the GSP Federal Register notices**

<https://ustr.gov/issue-areas/trade-development/preference-programs/generalized-system-preference-gsp#tab-frn>

## **II. SCOPE OF PRODUCTS (IN ACCORDANCE WITH THE NOTIFYING MEMBER'S CLASSIFICATION OF PRODUCTS)**

(a) *Number (tariff lines) and list of eligible products:*

**Products designated by the codes "A," "A\*," or "A+" in the "Special" column of the HTSUS are eligible for duty-free treatment under GSP, provided they meet the applicable rule of origin. The HTSUS is available here:**

<https://hts.usitc.gov/current>

**As of February 2016, approximately 3,500 tariff lines are generally eligible for duty-free treatment from all GSP beneficiary developing countries. An additional 1,500 tariff lines are eligible when imported from least-developed beneficiary developing countries (LDBDCs). A list of LDBDCs can be found in General Note 4(b)(i) of the HTSUS. The HTSUS is available here:**

<https://hts.usitc.gov/current>

**For more information on products eligible for GSP visit the following link:**

<https://ustr.gov/sites/default/files/The%20GSP%20Guidebook.pdf>

(b) *Ineligible products:*

**General Note 4(c) of the HTSUS (see link above) describes the products that are ineligible for duty-free treatment under GSP.**

**19 USC Section 2643(b) is the statutory provision for making certain products ineligible:**

<https://www.gpo.gov/fdsys/pkg/USCODE-2014-title19/pdf/USCODE-2014-title19-chap12-subchapV-sec2463.pdf>

(c) *Modification to Eligible Products List:*

**i) 19 USC Section 2463**

<https://www.gpo.gov/fdsys/pkg/USCODE-2014-title19/pdf/USCODE-2014-title19-chap12-subchapV-sec2463.pdf>

**ii) Announcements of modifications can be found in the GSP Federal Register notices:**

<https://ustr.gov/issue-areas/trade-development/preference-programs/generalized-system-preference-gsp#tab-frn>

<b>III. PTA TREATMENT</b>
<p>(a) <i>Tariff Treatment:</i>  <b>Products eligible for preferential treatment may enter duty-free.</b></p> <p><b>19 USC Section 2461</b></p> <p><a href="https://www.gpo.gov/fdsys/pkg/USCODE-2014-title19/pdf/USCODE-2014-title19-chap12-subchapV-sec2461.pdf">https://www.gpo.gov/fdsys/pkg/USCODE-2014-title19/pdf/USCODE-2014-title19-chap12-subchapV-sec2461.pdf</a></p>
<p>(b) <i>Exceptions:</i>  There are no different rates of duty under GSP (all eligible products enter the United States duty-free).</p>
<p>(c) <i>Different Preferential Treatment:</i>  All products covered by the U.S. GSP program are zero-duty. LDC beneficiaries are eligible for duty-free treatment on a wider range of products than non-LDC beneficiaries.</p> <p>19 USC Section 2462 provides that LDCs can be designated as beneficiaries, and sets out the eligibility criteria</p> <p><a href="https://www.gpo.gov/fdsys/pkg/USCODE-2014-title19/pdf/USCODE-2014-title19-chap12-subchapV-sec2462.pdf">https://www.gpo.gov/fdsys/pkg/USCODE-2014-title19/pdf/USCODE-2014-title19-chap12-subchapV-sec2462.pdf</a></p>
<p>(d) <i>Request for Preferential Treatment:</i>  <b>The procedures for requesting the addition of an article to the list of those designated as eligible for GSP are set forth in 15 CFR 2007, which can found at</b></p> <p><a href="http://www.ecfr.gov/cgi-bin/text-idx?SID=3f7d40775be2c81a310ed719ee5e41ef&amp;mc=true&amp;node=pt15.3.2007&amp;rgn=div5">http://www.ecfr.gov/cgi-bin/text-idx?SID=3f7d40775be2c81a310ed719ee5e41ef&amp;mc=true&amp;node=pt15.3.2007&amp;rgn=div5</a></p> <p>The GSP Guidebook available on the USTR web site also provides information on this topic. The Guidebook can be accessed at:  <a href="https://ustr.gov/sites/default/files/The%20GSP%20Guidebook.pdf">https://ustr.gov/sites/default/files/The%20GSP%20Guidebook.pdf</a></p>
<b>IV. RULES OF ORIGIN (INCLUDING REQUISITES AND RESTRICTIONS)</b>
<p><b>19 USC Section 2463(a)(2)</b> <a href="https://www.gpo.gov/fdsys/pkg/USCODE-2014-title19/pdf/USCODE-2014-title19-chap12-subchapV-sec2463.pdf">https://www.gpo.gov/fdsys/pkg/USCODE-2014-title19/pdf/USCODE-2014-title19-chap12-subchapV-sec2463.pdf</a></p> <p><b>19 CFR 10.171-10.178</b> <a href="http://www.ecfr.gov/cgi-bin/text-idx?SID=3f7d40775be2c81a310ed719ee5e41ef&amp;mc=true&amp;node=sq19.1.10_1153.sq31&amp;rgn=div7">http://www.ecfr.gov/cgi-bin/text-idx?SID=3f7d40775be2c81a310ed719ee5e41ef&amp;mc=true&amp;node=sq19.1.10_1153.sq31&amp;rgn=div7</a></p>
<b>V. PREFERENTIAL DATA</b>
<p>Link: <a href="http://dataweb.usitc.gov/">http://dataweb.usitc.gov/</a> (user registers online to create a login ID and password free of charge)</p> <p>Data relating to the GSP scheme of the United States can also be accessed from the WTO's Database on Preferential Trade Arrangements, from <a href="#">here</a>.</p>