

The following text is an unofficial translation of Attachment 2 (original Japanese text) of the Administrative Notice issued by the Consumer Affairs Agency on March 19, 2026, regarding the FADCC consultation services.

Please note that minor differences may arise between this translation and the original Japanese text. In case of any doubt, the original Japanese document prevails.

(Attachment 2)

### **About the flow of the consultation services of the Food Additive Designation Consultation Center**

The Food Additive Designation Consultation Center (hereinafter referred to as "FADCC"), as part of a project of the Consumer Affairs Agency, provides advice to those who wish to apply for the new designation of a food additive or the revision of standards of food additives (hereinafter referred to as "applicant") on the preparation of the required submission materials (application form, overview document, and attached documents such as cited references) to be submitted to the Consumer Affairs Agency. Effective April 1, 2026, FADCC modifies its operational procedures, as outlined below, to ensure the efficient implementation of the program. For further details, please refer to the operating procedures on the FADCC website.

#### **Note**

##### **1. Outline of the procedure**

FADCC has introduced a stage-gate system, with stages 0 to 3 as the "preliminary survey" phase and stage 4 as the "consultation" phase. By meeting the requirements of each gate, the proposal progresses to the next stage (see Figure 1).

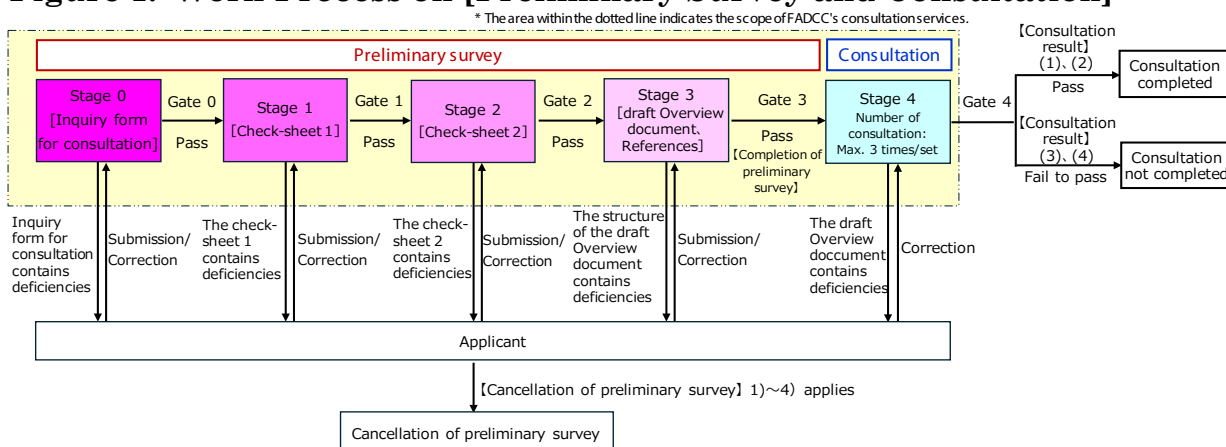
From stage 0 to stage 2, the applicant conducts a self-inspection (preparation for a draft overview document, such as collecting references) using the inquiry form for consultation, check-sheet 1, and check-sheet 2 provided by FADCC. If there are any deficiencies in the inquiry form for consultation or the check-sheet, FADCC points them out to the applicant and requests corrections before gate clearance.

In Stage 3, the applicant prepares a draft overview document and submits it to FADCC along with the reference files. After FADCC confirms the structure of the draft overview document and that all references are thoroughly attached, the

proposal then passes through gate 3 and enters the consultation phase of Stage 4.

In stage 4, FADCC consultants summarize their advice in a comment table containing points raised about the submitted draft overview document and send it to the applicant. The applicant revises the draft overview document in accordance with the comment table and backs the revised draft overview document to FADCC. This process will be repeated until the draft overview document is complete.

**Figure 1. Work Process on [Preliminary Survey and Consultation]**



- For a detailed explanation of Figure 1, please refer to the "About the flow of the consultation services of the Food Additive Designation Consultation Center (Procedure manual)" (Japanese version) posted on the FADCC website.

## 2. Setting deadlines for responding to FADCC advice

Deadlines are set for applicants to respond to the advice from the FADCC at each stage and to submit new documents after passing each gate. A maximum number of consultations for applicants of consultations in stage 4 (3 times) is set.

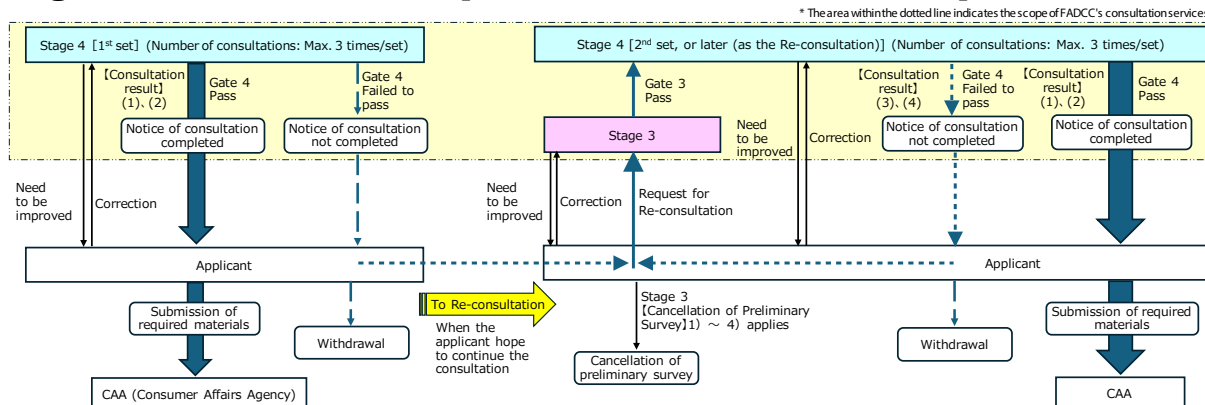
By conducting sufficiently thorough self-inspections in stages 1 to 3, and thus clarifying the content of your application, the proposal is expected to pass gate 4 (consultation completed) within 3 consultations. Three consultations constitute one set. If the proposal does not pass gate 4, after reaching the maximum number of consultations (3 times), the proposal will be classified as "consultation not completed".

## 3. Re-consultation

If the applicant wishes to consult again after the consultation of the proposal has been classified as "consultation not completed", they can request a re-consultation with the refined materials. In such case, the proposal will be accepted at stage 3, and the passing of gate 3 will be determined based on the responses to the points raised in the submitted materials in stage 4 of the previous set. If it is determined that the proposal passes gate 3, it will be treated as the first consultation in the second (or subsequent) set. Thereafter, as in the previous set, the number of

consultations will be limited to 3 times (see Figure 2).

**Figure 2. Work Process on [Consultation/Re-consultation]**



For a detailed explanation of Figure 2, please refer to the "About the flow of the consultation services of the Food Additive Designation Consultation Center (Procedure manual)" (Japanese version) posted on the FADCC website.

**4. Notes**

FADCC will provide consultation advice to applicants in the order of requests received. Please refer to the "About the flow of the consultation services of the FADCC" posted on the FADCC website.

FADCC appreciates your understanding and cooperation with the new procedure.

In addition, for cases that are already in stage 4 before April 1, 2026, the number of consultations will be reset and newly counted.

End