

United States
Department of
Agriculture

Animal and
Plant Health
Inspection
Service

Veterinary Services
National Center For Import
Import/Export Products
4700 River Road, Unit 40
Riverdale, MD 20737-1231

The United States Department of Agriculture (USDA), Animal and Plant Health Inspection Service (APHIS), Veterinary Services (VS), regulates the importation of animals and animal-derived materials to ensure that exotic animal and poultry diseases are not introduced into the United States.

Generally, a USDA veterinary permit is needed for materials derived from animals or exposed to animal-source materials. Materials which require a permit include animal tissues, blood, cells or cell lines of livestock or poultry origin, RNA/DNA extracts, hormones, enzymes, monoclonal antibodies for IN VIVO use in non-human species, certain polyclonal antibodies, antisera, bulk shipments of test kit reagents, and microorganisms including bacteria, viruses, protozoa, and fungi. Exceptions to this requirement are human and non-human primate tissues, serum, and blood.

Various other animal materials which require a permit include dairy products (except butter and cheese), and meat products (e.g., meat pies, prepared foods) from countries with livestock diseases exotic to the U.S.

User fees are charged for all import services for restricted animal products. All applications for a veterinary permit to import controlled materials or transport organisms and vectors must be accompanied by payment before processing can begin. Acceptable methods of payment are: check or money order (payable to USDA, APHIS), VISA, MasterCard, American Express, or APHIS User Fee Credit Account. User fee accounts are recommended if there are more than 6 fee activities per year.

Accounts may be established by requesting a credit application form from the following address:

USDA, APHIS, FSO, UFDA
P.O. Box 3220
Minneapolis, MN 55403-1503

or Call the USER FEE HELP LINE
Area Code (612) 370-2291

*The schedule of primary user fees are as follows (from 9 CFR, Part 130.8):

Service	Fee
Processing original application	\$94.00
Processing application for renewal	\$61.00
Processing amended application	\$47.00
Import compliance assistance	
(Simple) per shipment on hold	\$64.00
(Complicated) per shipment on hold	\$164.00

*Please note all fees are subject to change.

Import permit applications may also be obtained through the Automated Document Retrieval System

by calling Area Code (301) 734-4952, or by writing the Animal Products Program at:

USDA, APHIS, VS, NCIE
Products Program
4700 River Road, Unit 40
Riverdale, MD 20737-1231

For further information please contact the Animal Products Program at (301) 734-3277 or by facsimile at (301) 734-8226.