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Export Live Animals to Hong Kong

Last Modified:

Electronic Signature and Digital Endorsement ACCEPTED

For Accredited Veterinarians: Electronic signature ACCEPTED

For APHIS VMO: Digital endorsement ACCEPTED

USDA-accredited veterinarians can electronically issue health certificates and use VEHCS (Veterinary Export Health Certification System) to submit them to USDA for digital endorsement.

USDA can digitally endorse the health certificate and return it electronically.

What This Means for You

Accredited Veterinarians: Use the links below to access or get help with VEHCS. Learn more about how to issue export health certificates.

Animal Owners/Shippers: The endorsed health certificate can be printed out directly from VEHCS and does **not** have to be mailed back to you. The printed, endorsed health certificate must accompany the animal(s) during shipment or

travel.

VEHCS Help | VEHCS Guide (7.6 MB) | VEHCS Login

Live Animal Export Country Requirements - Select a Country - View Requirements

Summary of Requirements

For Hong Kong importation information, go to Import of Animals and Birds.

For all health certificates submitted through VEHCS for shipments of U.S.-origin animals and germplasm that are only *transiting* Hong Kong, select the **Hong Kong (Transit)** option from the "Country of Destination" dropdown menu.

For animals and germplasm that are *destined* for export to Hong Kong, first you must first select **Country Not Listed** from the "Country of Destination" dropdown menu, and then select **Hong Kong** from the full list of destination countries.

All health certificates for export of livestock, poultry, and birds must be issued by a USDA-accredited veterinarian and endorsed by an APHIS Veterinary Medical Officer within 14 days of departure.

View Hong Kong licensing requirements and import license information.

Expand All

Equine

Laboratory test reports/results are required for equine entry.

- Horses and Other Equines - Import Requirements to Hong Kong - Website

Swine

Importers of live swine into Hong Kong must apply for import permit from the Agriculture, Fisheries and Conservation Department.

- Swine - Breeding - Health Certificate (206.22 KB) (March 2026)
- Swine - Semen - Health Certificate (May 2025)

Poultry

For any current restriction on live birds/poultry, check the Temporary Restrictions under the "Reminder" heading at Hong Kong's Agriculture, Fisheries and Conservation Department website. Transit of day-old chicks is exempt for countrywide HPAI bans and require State or compartment freedom per the below posted sample health certificate.

- Birds, Poultry, and Ostriches - Import Requirements to Hong Kong - Website
- Poultry - Day-Old Chicks - Transit - Health Certificate (103.4 KB) (June 2018)

Birds (Non-Poultry)

For any current restriction on live birds/poultry origin or transits, check the Temporary Restrictions under the "Reminder" heading at Hong Kong's Agriculture, Fisheries and Conservation Department website.

- Birds, Poultry, and Ostriches - Import Requirements to Hong Kong - Website

Taking a Pet to Another Country?

Visit Pet Travel

Aquaculture/Aquatic Animals

Hong Kong does not have any import requirements for aquatic animals, except for endangered species under CITES. The importation requirements for endangered species, including those aquatic animals, are available at Licensing and Inspection.

Research/Laboratory Animals

Visit Hong Kong's website to learn more about importing these animals.

Health certificates for animals for research and laboratory purposes must be issued by the USDA-accredited veterinarian that is in charge of the research animal colony of origin and endorsed by an APHIS Veterinary Medical Officer within 14 days of departure.

- Laboratory Rodents – Health Certificate (188.31 KB) (February 2025)
- Genetically Modified Organisms (GMOs) Documentation for Import and Export (131.63 KB)

Any GMOs being imported must be accompanied by the GMO Documentation for Import and Export per Hong Kong Regulation, Cap 607A. The GMO documentation does not need to be incorporated into the APHIS-endorsed health certificate or endorsed by APHIS.

Other Animals

Health certificates for the export of commercial shipments of U.S.-origin animals must be issued by a private USDA-accredited veterinarian and endorsed by an APHIS Veterinary Medical Officer within 14 days of departure.

- Reptiles, Rodents, Lagomorphs, Turtles, and Miscellaneous Pets - Import Requirements to Hong Kong - Website

Taking a Pet to Another Country?

Visit Pet Travel

If your species is not listed, the requirements for that species are not known. Exporters who want to ship livestock or germplasm whose requirements are not listed above should have the importer or buyer in the destination country apply for an import permit at the appropriate ministry. This import permit will most likely outline the specific requirements.

Need Help?

USDA-Accredited Veterinarians

Contact a USDA-accredited veterinarian for questions about your destination country's entry requirements for animals (including any needed vaccinations, tests, or treatments); issuance of health certificates; and status updates on certificate endorsement.

Find a USDA-Accredited Veterinarian

APHIS Endorsement Offices

APHIS Veterinary Export Trade Services (VETS) offers commodity-specific expertise for exporting animals. Use the dropdown to contact us with questions about endorsing health certificates. For quickest help, see **tips for exporters and accredited veterinarians.**

- Select a Commodity - ▼

Loading...
All Contacts

Related Resources

- Frequently Asked Questions About Live Animal Exports
- VEHCS Login
- National Veterinary Accreditation Program: Information for Veterinarians
- Role of the Accredited Veterinarian in International Animal Exports

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