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Export Live Animals to Portugal

Last Modified:

Electronic Signature **ACCEPTED**; Original Ink Endorsement **REQUIRED**

For Accredited Veterinarians: Electronic signature **ACCEPTED**

For APHIS VMO: Original ink endorsement **REQUIRED**

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

USDA must ink-sign and emboss the health certificate.

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: You can arrange to have your health certificate returned by mail (a prepaid, preaddressed return label must be provided during certificate submission). The endorsed health certificate—ink-signed and embossed—must accompany the animal(s) during shipment or travel.

Live Animal Export Country Requirements

[View](#)

[Requirements](#)

Summary of Requirements

This country is a Member State of the European Union (EU). Bilingual health certificates are available for some commodities/species (see below). If the bilingual certificate for that species or commodity is not listed below, please refer to the English version on the [EU IRegs webpage](#). It is the responsibility of the exporter to obtain a bilingual certificate if it is not listed below.

The European Union (EU) has updated all of their harmonized health certificates in accordance with their [Animal Health Law](#). The new export health certificates are posted on the [EU IRegs](#). Regularly check the [EU IRegs](#) for the most up-to-date information regarding live animal exports to the EU.

It is the responsibility of the exporter to obtain a bilingual certificate if it is not available on the relevant Member State IRegs page. If you need to create a bilingual version of a harmonized EU certificate, please contact LAIE@usda.gov with your request, and we will provide you the necessary documents.

Note: Some health certificates may have had non-relevant statements removed (rather than lined out) as allowed in EU legislation, which is strictly to simplify/shorten the documents.

[Expand All](#)

Aquaculture/Aquatic Animals

- [Health Certificate](#) (248.78 KB) - Ornamental Aquatic Animals (Fish, Molluscs and Crustaceans) for CLOSED facilities - June 2022

Note: For aquatic worms, additional information can be found in the “Other Animals” section.

Other Animals

[Annelids/Aquatic Worms - Fishing Bait - Health Certificate](#) - September 2025

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](#)

Live Animal Industry Team

APHIS Veterinary Services' Industry Team offers commodity-specific expertise for live animal exports. Use the dropdown to contact us with questions about endorsing export health certificates.

- Select a Commodity - ▼

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[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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Tips for Exporters and Accredited Veterinarians

Endorsement Services

- **No in-person or drop-off services.**
- For fastest processing, have your [accredited veterinarian](#) **submit certificates through [VEHCS](#).**
- Routine APHIS VEHCS processing services are staffed Monday through Friday from 7:00 a.m. to 4:30 p.m. Central Time (CT), excluding Federal holidays. The time listed in VEHCS reflects GMT.
- Paper certificates are discouraged but may be mailed to one of our two paper endorsement offices (see addresses below).

Status Updates

Endorsement offices **cannot confirm delivery or provide status updates.** For updates:

- Contact your [accredited veterinarian](#) (they can check VEHCS status).
- Use your **mail tracking number.**

Important Tips

- Ensure accuracy and submit documents as early as possible within the allowed timeline of the destination country to avoid delays.
- Use **overnight or Saturday delivery** when mailing.

Mailing Addresses

USDA-APHIS

Attn: VETS

920 Main Campus Dr., Suite 200

Raleigh, NC 27606

USDA-APHIS

Attn: VETS

10365 Old Placerville Rd., Suite 210

Sacramento, CA 95827

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