Pet Travel From the United States to United Arab Emirates

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.

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

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

Electronic Signature ACCEPTED; Digital Endorsement for SOME COMMODITIES ONLY

For Accredited Veterinarians: Electronic signature ACCEPTED

For APHIS VMO: Digital endorsement for SOME COMMODITIES ONLY

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

Digital endorsement varies by species—see requirements on this page for details. The health certificate either bears the original ink signature and embossed seal ***or*** digital signature/seal.

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: Digitally endorsed health certificates can be printed out directly from VEHCS. For non-digitally endorsed health certificates, you can arrange to have your health certificate returned by mail (a prepaid, preaddressed return label must be provided during certificate submission). A paper version of the endorsed health certificate must accompany the animal(s) during shipment or travel.

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

Travel Requirements Based on Pet Type

Carefully read ALL of the requirements related to your pet on this page.

- This page provides the most recent entry requirements and can change without notice.
- It is the responsibility of the veterinarian to make sure the pet has met all health requirements of the destination country before issuing a health certificate.
- Failure to meet the requirements may result in problems gaining certificate endorsement or difficulties upon arrival in the destination country.
- Health certificates must be legible, accurate, and complete.

Expand All

Dogs and Cats

- Before traveling with your pet, you must obtain an import permit from the UAE's Ministry of Climate Change and Environment.
    - This import permit is valid for 30 days. Your pet will not be allowed to enter the UAE with an expired import permit.
- Only 2 cats, or 2 dogs, or 1 cat and 1 dog are allowed annually.
- Your pet must travel to the UAE as manifested cargo.
- Cats and dogs must be identified with a microchip.
- The pet must be at least 15 weeks old at the time of import.
- Upon arrival into the UAE, you need to provide the following documents to Port Officials:
    - Valid health certificate issued by your USDA accredited veterinarian and endorsed by USDA. The health certificate is valid for 10 days after issuance.
    - Vaccination certificate for all of the vaccines your pet has received. The vaccine name, manufacturer, batch number, vaccination date, vaccine labels, and any treatments given to the animal should be included on the vaccination certificate.
        - Dogs:
            - Rabies vaccine (at least 21 days must elapse from vaccination before travel; the dog must be at least 12 weeks old at the time of vaccination)
            - Canine distemper virus
            - Canine parvovirus
            - Infectious canine hepatitis
            - Leptospirosis (icterohaemorrhagiae and canicola)
        - Cats:
            - Rabies vaccine (at least 21 days must elapse from vaccination before travel; the cat must be at least 12 weeks old at the time of vaccination)
            - Feline panleukopenia
            - Feline rhinotracheitis

        - Feline calicivirus
    - Documentation (on health certificate) of parasite treatments during the 14 days prior to travel.
        - External parasite treatment (**recommend Fipronil or Permethrin**)
        - Internal parasite treatment (**recommend Praziquantel**)
    - Documentation (on health certificate) of your pet's rabies titer test results which must be ≥ 0.5 I.
        - The blood sample for rabies titer test must be collected not more than 12 months prior to travel.
        - In the case of an animal vaccinated for the first time, or if the period of validity since last vaccinated has lapsed, the blood sample should not be collected until at least 21 days after vaccination.
        - In the case of an animal with a valid rabies booster, the blood sample can be collected on the same day as, or any day after, the most recent rabies vaccination.
        - Copy of the UAE import permit.
        - If your pet is transiting through other countries before arrival in UAE, you (or the carrier representative or holder of the animal) must sign an attestation (13.28 KB) that the animal(s) did not have contact with any other animals while in transit.
- For pets residing in the UAE that are returning to the UAE, they must comply with the above requirements except rabies titer testing if they were vaccinated against rabies prior to exiting the UAE and the vaccination is still valid upon return to the UAE. If their rabies vaccination is no longer valid, they will need to be re-vaccinated and undergo rabies titer testing as described above. Pets returning to the UAE must be accompanied with a copy of the veterinary health certificate issued by the MOCCAE while exiting.

For pets transiting the UAE, you must obtain a transit permit from the UAE's Ministry of Climate Change and Environment

Dog breeds not allowed entry into the UAE:

- Pit Bulls (Staffordshire Bull Terrier, American Pit Bull Terrier, American Staffordshire Terrier, American Bully)
- Mastiff Dogs (Brazilian Mastiff (Fila Brasiliero), Argentinian Mastiff (Dogo Argentino), Tibetan Mastiff, Neapolitan Mastiff, French Mastiff (Dogue de

Bordeaux), Boerboel, Bullmastiff, Cane Corso (Italian Mastiff), Bully Kutta (Alangu Mastiff, Indian Mastiff), Perro De Presa Canario (Canary Mastiff))
- Tosa (Japanese Tosa)
- Presa Canario
- Any mixed breed of above breeds or their hybrid

Dogs:

International Health Certificate (356.46 KB)

Cats:

International Health Certificate (262.51 KB)

Rabbits

The requirements for traveling with your pet are described in the health certificate.

Veterinary Health Certificate for Rabbits (156.2 KB)

Birds

The requirements for traveling with your pet are described in the health certificate.

Veterinary Health Certificate for Birds (177.82 KB)

Other Pets

For pet travel requirements not listed, APHIS has not been officially informed by the foreign country about the requirements for your pet's travel. We recommend that you contact a government official of the country you are traveling to for more information.

Country of Destination Contact Information

World Organisation for Animal Health: Members

U.S. Department of State: Foreign Embassies and Consulates

Countries Participating in the European Union

Austria
Belgium
Bulgaria
Croatia
Cyprus
Czech Republic
Denmark
Estonia

Finland
France
Germany
Greece
Hungary
Republic of Ireland
Italy
Latvia

Lithuania
Luxembourg
Malta
Netherlands
Northern Ireland*
Norway**
Poland
Portugal

Romania
Slovakia
Slovenia
Spain
Sweden
Switzerland**

* Northern Ireland is part of the United Kingdom (UK), but will continue to follow European Union (EU) requirements even though the UK is no longer part of the EU.
** Norway and Switzerland are **not** part of the EU but have adopted EU legislation for import of most species of live animals.

Important Travel Considerations

Considerations for airline travel and cruises:



Airlines and shipping lines have their own policies and requirements for transporting pets. Check with your airline or shipping representative to determine what requirements they may have.

Learn how you can improve the safety of dogs and cats during air travel.

View additional information for pet owners, airlines, and others about APHIS endorsement of international health certificates (239.52 KB).

If pets or support animals accompany you on a cruise, you must comply with entry rules for **every** country or port where your pet or support animal exits the ship.

Will you be returning to the United States with your pet?



View APHIS Requirements

ALERT: CDC is the primary authority for dog imports. For requirements or questions about dogs entering or returning to the United States, visit the CDC website.

See More See Less

Need Help?

Guidance for Pet Owners

Read an overview of the process for taking your pet to another country and related resources.

Frequently Asked Questions

View frequently asked questions about traveling with your pet.

Still Have Questions?

USDA-Accredited Veterinarians

Contact a USDA-accredited veterinarian for questions about your destination country's entry requirements for pets (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

Contact APHIS Veterinary Export Trade Services if you have questions about endorsing an international pet health certificate. For quickest help, see **tips for pet owners and accredited veterinarians.**

Generalist Team

Veterinary Export Trade Services

Email: askvets@usda.gov

Helpful Links:

- Frequently Asked Questions About Pet Travel for Accredited Veterinarians

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- Frequently Asked Questions About Pet Travel for Accredited Veterinarians

All Contacts

Looking for Another Country?

Find your destination country requirements by using the dropdown menu below. If your country is not listed in the menu, visit Pet Travel: Unknown Requirements.

Select Destination Country Select Destination Cour ▼ Go

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