Breadcrumb

1. Home
2. Print
3. Pdf
4. Node
5. Entity Print

Traveling With Young Pets Under 16 Weeks of Age to the European Union

Last Modified:



Only a few European Union (EU) countries allow pet dogs, cats, or ferrets that are less than 16 weeks old to enter their country coming from the United States.

First, check the European Commission's website to determine which EU countries allow young pets. Look for "**Yes**" under the middle column in the table titled "Article 11 of Regulation (EU) No 576/2013." If there is a "**No**" in that column, your pet cannot travel to that EU country until it meets all of the requirements listed on the country page. Use the dropdown below to view the country requirements.

Select Destination Country Select Destination Cour ▼ Go

If there is a "**Yes**" in the middle column of the European Commission's website, follow the steps below:

1. Microchip

- Your young pet must have a working microchip (also called a “transponder”) **before** it can travel to the EU.
- If your pet does not yet have a microchip or has a microchip that doesn’t work, ask your veterinarian to implant an ISO-compliant* microchip.
- If your pet has a working microchip, but it is not ISO-compliant, you will need to travel with your own scanner that can read the microchip **or** have a second microchip implanted that is ISO-compliant. Make sure **both microchips** are listed on the health certificate.

* ISO-compliant microchip numbers are usually 15 digits long and meet specific international standards (ISO 11784 and ISO 11785). You can check ISO-compliance with the microchip manufacturer.

2. Rabies Vaccination for Pets 12–16 Weeks Old

- If your pet is 12 weeks or below, you must reach out to the Member State to confirm what the conditions of export are for that particular country, if allowed.

3. Health Certificate

- Choose the correct health certificate under "Health Certificate Options" below based on your pet's travel plans. Then, have your accredited veterinarian complete and sign the EU health certificate.
- After the accredited veterinarian has completed and signed the health certificate, it needs to be endorsed by USDA **within 10 days of your pet's arrival in the EU**.
- For more information about the endorsement process and fees, visit Working With an APHIS Endorsement Office and Cost To Endorse Your Pet's Health Certificate.

Health Certificate Options

Expand All

The owner traveling on the same plane as the pet.

Pet Traveling **WITH** Its Mother: Health Certificate (678.16 KB)
Pet Traveling **WITHOUT** Its Mother: Health Certificate (733.37 KB)

Important Information

- **View instructions for completing the health certificate.** (915.99 KB)
- **Complete and Sign the Declaration(s):** The last page(s) of each EU health certificate document contains one or two **Declaration(s),** which must be completed and signed **by the owner or designated person*** ***before*** the pet travels to the EU. The Declaration(s) must accompany the pet and completed health certificate to the EU.
- **The pet must arrive in the EU within 10 days** from the date APHIS endorses the health certificate.
- The following EU countries require that you use a **bilingual version** of the health certificate:
  - Austria, Bulgaria, Croatia, Cyprus, Czech Republic, Estonia, France, Germany, Greece, Hungary, Italy, Latvia, Lithuania, Poland, Portugal, Romania, Slovakia, Slovenia, and Spain
  - To request a bilingual health certificate, email APHIS at laie@usda.gov. To help us get you the correct document quickly, include:
    1. Country of destination
    2. Whether the pet is traveling with its mother
    3. If the owner or designated person* is traveling on the same plane as the pet

A designated person* is traveling on the same plane as the pet.

*** Designated person is a family member, friend, or other person authorized by the owner to travel with the pet(s).**

Pet Traveling WITH Its Mother: Health Certificate (682.21 KB)
Pet Traveling WITHOUT Its Mother: Health Certificate (692.94 KB)

Important Information

- **View instructions for completing the health certificate.** (915.99 KB)
- **Complete and Sign the Declaration(s):** The last page(s) of each EU health certificate document contains one or two **Declaration(s),** which must be completed and signed **by the owner or designated person* *before*** the pet travels to the EU. The Declaration(s) must accompany the pet and completed health certificate to the EU.
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- The following EU countries require that you use a **bilingual version** of the health certificate:
  - Austria, Bulgaria, Croatia, Cyprus, Czech Republic, Estonia, France, Germany, Greece, Hungary, Italy, Latvia, Lithuania, Poland, Portugal, Romania, Slovakia, Slovenia, and Spain
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Pet transport company or airline cargo is solely responsible for shipping the pet AND the owner or designated person* has traveled or will travel within 5 days of the pet.

*** Designated person is a family member, friend, or other person authorized by the owner to travel with the pet(s).**

Pet Traveling WITH Its Mother: Health Certificate (678.14 KB)
Pet Traveling WITHOUT Its Mother: Health Certificate (693.06 KB)

Important Information

- **View instructions for completing the health certificate.** (915.99 KB)
- **Complete and Sign the Declaration(s):** The last page(s) of each EU health certificate document contains one or two **Declaration(s),** which must be completed and signed **by the owner or designated person*** ***before*** the pet travels to the EU. The Declaration(s) must accompany the pet and completed health certificate to the EU.
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- The following EU countries require that you use a **bilingual version** of the health certificate:
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