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Bring Five or Fewer Pet Birds into the United States

Last Modified:



This page will guide you through the requirements for bringing pet birds into the United States from another country.

A shipment of pet birds is defined as **five or fewer birds** brought into the United States that aren't intended for resale and are **not** a poultry species.

If you're bringing in six or more pet birds or any number of birds classified as poultry, they do not qualify for pet travel. This means they are subject to different regulations. Birds classified as poultry include chickens, doves, ducks, geese, grouse, guinea fowl, partridges, pea fowl, pheasants, pigeons, quail, swans, and turkeys. [View the import regulations if your bird does not qualify for pet travel.](#)

Carefully read ALL requirements on this page.

- Failure to meet these import requirements will result in problems upon arrival in the United States, and the pet may be refused entry.
- Multiple U.S. agencies regulate pets imported into the United States. It's important that you notify and coordinate with all responsible Government agencies.

APHIS Veterinary Services Requirements

The requirements for bringing your pet bird into the United States vary depending on the foreign country you're traveling from and whether or not your bird is considered U.S.-origin (as determined by a U.S.-issued health certificate that was issued before the bird left the United States).

Click on the appropriate link below to see the step-by-step guide for bringing your pet bird into the United States.

Non-U.S.-Origin Pet Birds

[Non-U.S.-origin pet bird traveling to the United States from Canada](#)

[Non-U.S.-origin pet bird traveling to the United States from Mexico](#)

[Non-U.S.-origin pet bird traveling to United States from a country other than Canada or Mexico](#)

U.S.-Origin Pet Birds

Identification requirements for returning U.S.-origin pet birds are found in each of the step-by-step guides. Birds that meet the requirements can be quarantined at home as long as they did not visit a [country with highly pathogenic avian influenza](#).

Birds that do not meet the requirements must be quarantined in a Federal quarantine facility.

[U.S.-origin pet bird returning to the United States from Canada](#)

[U.S.-origin pet bird returning to the United States from Mexico](#)

[U.S.-origin pet bird returning to the United States after a stay in a foreign country other than Canada or Mexico](#)

Other Federal Agency Requirements

The process for bringing your pet bird into the United States involves multiple agencies, including APHIS, [U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service](#), and [U.S. Customs and Border Protection](#). It's critical that you meet **all** requirements for each of these agencies.

U.S. State and Territory Requirements

Domestic movement requirements are set by the receiving State or Territory.

Visit the [National Association of State Departments of Agriculture](#) to find your destination's agriculture department and check its website for requirements.

For questions or clarification on any of the requirements, contact the [State or Territorial veterinarian's office](#).

Airline Requirements

Check with your airline to determine whether they have any additional requirements.

Need Help?

For general questions related to the import of a live animal:

Live Animal Import and Export

Email: laie@usda.gov

Phone: [301-851-3300](tel:301-851-3300)

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