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# How Do I Find a USDA-Accredited Veterinarian To Complete My Animal's Health Certificate?

Last Modified:



For the purposes of international travel and trade, most foreign countries require that the health certificate be issued (completed, signed, dated) by a USDA-accredited veterinarian before being endorsed (countersigned and

embossed/stamped) by APHIS.

[Find Accredited Veterinarians](#)

## What Is a USDA-Accredited Veterinarian?

A USDA-accredited veterinarian has completed formal training from the [National Veterinary Accreditation Program \(NVAP\)](#) in the State(s) they are licensed to practice medicine in. **Accreditation is State-specific** and voluntary (not all veterinarians are accredited).

## How Do I Find a USDA-Accredited Veterinarian?

- **Call and ask your local veterinarian if they or another veterinarian in their practice is accredited**, or if they know of someone who is.
- Contact other local veterinary practices to ask them if they have an accredited veterinarian on staff.
- [Use the NVAP self-search tool for finding accredited veterinarians in your area.](#)
  - **Note:** Not all accredited veterinarians in your area may appear in the search since not all accredited veterinarians allow USDA-APHIS to release their information publicly.

Make sure your USDA-accredited veterinarian **is accredited in the State you're seeing them in!** APHIS **cannot** endorse your health certificate if your veterinarian is not accredited in the State where they're practicing medicine. Contact your State's [NVAP coordinator](#) to confirm your veterinarian's accreditation status.

[Download contacts](#)

NVAP Coordinator

Contact your State's NVAP coordinator to confirm your veterinarian's accreditation status.

- Select a State - ▼

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[How Do I Find a USDA-Accredited Veterinarian To Complete My Animal's Health Certificate? Contacts](#)

## Birds and Livestock

If you're traveling with or shipping birds or livestock, make sure your veterinarian has a [Category II accreditation status](#) for completion of international health certificates for birds or livestock.

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