Dog Imports: Check Country Disease Status

Last Modified:

The U.S. Centers for Disease Control and Prevention updated rabies vaccination requirements for all dogs entering or returning to the United States. Certain requirements must be met ***before*** **departing the United States**. Learn More

APHIS Veterinary Services, along with the CDC, has specific requirements for dogs traveling (imported) to the United States from countries affected by particular diseases such as foot-and-mouth disease (FMD), screwworm, and rabies.

For dog(s) coming from...

- FMD-affected countries (not free), follow the APHIS Veterinary Services import requirements.
- Screwworm-affected countries (not free), follow the APHIS Veterinary Services import requirements.
- Rabies-affected countries (not free), review CDC dog importation regulations .

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Rabies Alert

The U.S. Centers for Disease Control and Prevention (CDC) is the primary Government authority for all dogs imported into the United States, including returning U.S.-origin dogs. The following requirements related to rabies are established by CDC, **not** APHIS.

- **Certification Required**
  - Dogs traveling to or returning from a high-risk country for dog rabies must have the "Certification of U.S.-Issued Rabies Vaccination" form completed by a USDA-accredited veterinarian and submitted ***before* departing the United States.**
  - This form **cannot be issued retroactively** after your dog leaves the United States.
  - Veterinarians: Instructions for completing the form
- **Additional CDC Requirements**
  - Learn More: Entry Requirements for U.S.-Vaccinated Dogs From High-Risk Countries | CDC
  - Questions? Contact **CDC** at **800-232-4636** or visit CDC-INFO.

Related Information

- APHIS may have separate requirements for dogs entering the United States. These differ from the CDC import requirements.
- Learn More: Bringing a Pet Dog into the United States | APHIS
- VEHCS Access and Help (for veterinarians): Using the Veterinary Export Health Certification System (VEHCS)

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