

REPUBLIC OF SINGAPORE  
THE ANIMALS AND BIRDS ACT (CHAP.7)

**VETERINARY CONDITIONS FOR THE IMPORTATION OF  
DOGS/CATS FOR COUNTRIES UNDER CATEGORY C (3/4)**

**I COUNTRY/ PLACE OF EXPORT**

Belgium, Canada, Netherlands, Spain and USA (except Guam and Hawaii)

**II PURPOSE**

Any purpose.

**III IMPORT LICENCE**

Each animal shall be accompanied by a valid import licence issued by the Agri-Food and Veterinary Authority (AVA) of Singapore.

**IV VETERINARY CERTIFICATION**

The animal shall be accompanied by:

(a) a veterinary certificate (in accordance with the attached template) bearing a date not more than seven (7) days prior to export, signed by a *government approved veterinarian* of the country of export and endorsed by an *official government veterinarian of the country of export*, describing the age, breed, sex, colour, markings or other points of identification of dog/cat and certifying to the effect that:

- (i) the dog/cat had been continuously resident in the country of export, or any country listed in Part I of Category A, B and C of the Veterinary Conditions for the Importation of Dogs/Cats, for at least six (6) months prior to export, or since birth.
- (ii) the dog/cat was examined by the government approved veterinarian and found to be healthy, free from any clinical sign of infectious or contagious disease and fit for travel at the time of export.
- (iii) the dog/cat was at least twelve (12) weeks of age at the time of export.
- (iv) the dog/cat has been examined by the government approved veterinarian at the time of export and found to be implanted with a microchip that bears the identification code as that indicated in the veterinary health certificate and the vaccination certificate.
- (v) The dog/cat complies with requirements for rabies control under the following categories:

**EITHER**

**Category C1**

- (1) The dog/cat must have valid vaccination against rabies using an AVA-approved inactivated vaccine at least four (4) months prior to export. This refers to a valid primary vaccination and/or up to date booster(s) according to the vaccine manufacturers' recommendations. The dog/cat must have a blood sample taken and tested for acceptable rabies antibody levels at least one (1) month after the above vaccination and within six (6) months prior to export.
- (2) Following the date of sampling for serology, the dog/cat must be vaccinated again. This additional vaccination must not be less than one (1) month prior to export.

**OR**

**Category C2**

The dog/cat must have valid vaccination against rabies using an AVA-approved inactivated vaccine at least three (3) months prior to export. This refers to a valid primary vaccination and/or up to date booster(s) according to the vaccine manufacturers' recommendations. The dog/cat must have a blood sample taken and tested for acceptable rabies antibody levels at least one (1) month after the above vaccination and within six (6) months prior to export.

- (vi) in the case of a dog under sixteen (16) weeks of age, the dog was vaccinated against Canine Distemper, Canine Hepatitis and Canine Parvoviral infection with at least two (2) vaccinations, four(4) weeks apart, and the second vaccination must be given at least two (2) weeks prior to export,

**OR**

in the case of a dog sixteen (16) weeks of age and above, the dog was vaccinated at least once not less than two (2) weeks and not more than one (1) year prior to export against Canine Distemper, Canine Hepatitis and Canine Parvoviral infection.

- (vii) in the case of a cat under sixteen (16) weeks of age, the cat was vaccinated against Cat Flu (Feline calicivirus and Feline viral rhinotracheitis, and *Chlamydomphila felis*) and Cat enteritis (ie Feline Panleukopaenia/ Feline Infectious Enteritis) with at least two (2) vaccinations,

three (3) weeks apart, and the second vaccination must be given at least two (2) weeks prior to export;

**OR**

in the case of a cat sixteen (16) weeks of age and above, the cat was vaccinated at least once not less than two (2) weeks and not more than one (1) year prior to export against Cat Flu (Feline calicivirus and Feline viral rhinotracheitis, and *Chlamydomphila felis*) and Cat enteritis (ie Feline Panleukopaenia/ Feline parvovirus).

(viii) the dog/cat has been treated with a product effective against external parasites (fleas and ticks) between 2 and 10 days of export (*state active ingredient and date of treatment*), and with a product effective against internal parasites (nematodes and cestodes) within 4 days of export (*state active ingredient and date of treatment*).

(b) the dog/cat's original vaccination certificate, which also bears the identification code of the microchip that has been implanted. The vaccination certificate also bears the details (name of veterinarian, name and address of veterinary practice) and endorsement of government-approved veterinarian who vaccinated the dog/cat and verified the microchip identification code.

**V DECLARATION FROM MASTER/CAPTAIN OF SHIP/AIRCRAFT**

Not required.

**VI QUARANTINE**

Upon arrival the animal shall be quarantined at the Sembawang Animal Quarantine Station. The quarantine period is dependent on the option chosen by the owner or agent to meet the requirements for rabies control:

Category C1: The animal shall be quarantined for a period not less than 10 days.

Category C2: The animal shall be quarantined for a period not less than 30 days.

The owner or his agent is responsible for ensuring that quarantine space is available at the Sembawang Animal Quarantine Station.

**VII APPLICATION FOR IMPORT LICENCE**

The owner or his agent must apply for the import licence by submitting an online application through AVA's website ([www.ava.gov.sg](http://www.ava.gov.sg)>e-Services>Animals&Pet Sector>Licence to Import/Export/Transship of Animals/Birds/Eggs/Biologics) 30 days prior to the arrival of animals. The Application and Acceptance for Quarantine of Dogs and Cats at Sembawang Animal Quarantine Station (SAQS) must be attached to the online application form.

**VIII NOTIFICATION OF ARRIVAL**

The owner or his agent shall contact the Quarantine Office as stated in the Import Licence at least five (5) working days before the arrival of the animal.

**IX VETERINARY INSPECTION**

On arrival at the port of disembarkation in Singapore, the dog/cat and documents (Import Licence, Veterinary Health Certificate) shall be presented to and examined by an authorised Veterinary Officer. If the animal is found to be healthy and documents are in order, the animal shall be taken to the Sembawang Animal Quarantine Station by a Quarantine officer.

**X PENALTY**

(i) If the animal does not meet the residency requirements upon arrival, the animal shall be quarantined at the Sembawang Animal Quarantine Station to make up for shortfall in duration mandated by the residency requirement.

(ii) If the animal does not meet the pre-export vaccination requirement, the animal shall be vaccinated upon arrival and be subjected to serology tests for acceptable rabies antibody levels one (1) month after vaccination. The animal shall be quarantined at the Sembawang Animal Quarantine Station for 120 days after vaccination.

(iii) If the animal does not meet the requirement of pre-export serology tests for acceptable rabies antibody levels, the animal would be subjected to serology tests upon arrival and shall be quarantined at the Sembawang Animal Quarantine Station. The quarantine period is dependent on the option chosen by the owner or agent to meet the rabies control requirements:

Category C1: The animal shall be quarantined for a period not less than 10 days.

Category C2: The animal shall be quarantined for a period not less than 30 days.

and when the serology results are obtained, whichever is later.

The animal may be returned to the country of export if the serology test result does not meet AVA's requirement.

(iv) If any animal is not healthy or if any document is not in order or quarantine space is unavailable, the animal shall be returned to the country of export, **detained for up to two weeks** for observation prior to quarantine or destroyed at the discretion of the Director-General of Agri-Food and Veterinary Services.



**XI FEES**

- (i) Import Licence }
- (ii) Veterinary inspection and processing of documents outside office hours }
- (iii) Accommodation fee at Changi Animal & Plant Quarantine Unit } see Fee Schedule:
- (iv) Rabies Vaccination } Attachment-1
- (v) Transport charges to Sembawang Animal Quarantine Station }
- (vi) Quarantine fee at Sembawang Animal Quarantine Station }

**XII OTHER REQUIREMENTS/INFORMATION**

- (i) Owners should take into account the age and condition of their animals as well as travel and climatic stress when deciding to export their dogs/cats to Singapore.
- (ii) Owners must ensure that the animal has been transported in escape-proof containers conforming to the latest International Air Transport Association's (IATA) Live Animal Regulations (if transport is by air).
- (iii) Owners should ensure that the animal is not pregnant at the time of export. For animals that must undergo mandatory quarantine, the owner must ensure that adequate quarantine facilities and veterinary care are available for the well-being of the newborn animals if the animal whelps during the period of quarantine. The owner must bear any additional costs as a result of such an event.
- (iv) Owners of any dog above 3 months of age must apply for a licence to keep the dog in Singapore. See Fee Schedule: Attachment-1.
- (v) Only one (1) dog of an approved breed is allowed in a Housing and Development Board (HDB) dwelling unit and no dog is allowed in other non-residential HDB premises. Not more than three (3) dogs are allowed in each non-HDB premises. No cat is allowed in a HDB dwelling unit.
- (vi) A licence must be obtained from AVA to use any place for exhibition, sale or export of any animal or bird.
- (vii) Any expenditure incurred in the process of importation shall be borne by the owner or agent. Any loss occasioned during the removal, handling or treatment of an imported dog/cat under the directions of AVA or occurring during the period of detention in quarantine, shall be borne by the owner or agent.
- (viii) The following breeds of dogs and their crosses are not allowed to be imported into Singapore - Pit Bull(which includes the American Pit Bull Terrier also known as the American Pit Bull and Pit Bull Terrier, American Staffordshire Terrier, Staffordshire Bull Terrier, the American Bulldog, and crosses between them and with other breeds) Neapolitan Mastiff, Tosa, Akita, Dogo Argentino, Boerboel, Fila Brasileiro and their crosses.
- (ix) The following breeds of dogs need to be muzzled while in a public place: Bull Mastiff, Bull Terrier, Doberman, German Shepherd with its related breeds such as the Belgian Shepherd and the East European Shepherd, Rottweiler and Perro de Presa Canario.
- (x) The microchip that is implanted into the dog must meet with ISO (International Standards Organisation) Standard 11784 or Annex A to ISO Standard 11785. If the dog is implanted with a microchip which does not comply with these stated ISO Standards, the owner of the dog or his authorised agent must provide a reader which is able to read the identification code of the implanted microchip at the point of entry into Singapore.
- (xi) Bengal cat crosses imported into Singapore require documentary proof that they are at least a 5th generation cross from the ancestral stock of *Prionailurus bengalensis*. 4th generation crosses and below cannot be imported to Singapore as pets as they come under CITES regulations.
- (xii) Regulations and fees are subject to change without notice notwithstanding the issuance of a licence by AVA.
- (xiii) Additional information may be found in the application form.

**ISSUED BY:**  
 HEAD/REGULATORY AND HEALTH PLANNING DIVISION  
 AGRI-FOOD AND VETERINARY AUTHORITY OF SINGAPORE  
 5 MAXWELL ROAD #03-00  
 TOWER BLOCK, MND COMPLEX  
 REPUBLIC OF SINGAPORE 069110  
 FAX: [65] 62206068

**APPLICATION/ENQUIRIES:**  
 HEAD/IMPORT & EXPORT DIVISION  
 5 MAXWELL ROAD #02-00  
 TOWER BLOCK, MND COMPLEX  
 SINGAPORE 069110  
 TELEPHONE: [65] 62270670  
 FAX: [65] 62276305  
 E-mail: AVA\_Import&Export\_Animals@ava.gov.sg

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**VETERINARY CERTIFICATE FOR THE IMPORT OF DOGS AND CATS INTO SINGAPORE**

*For Category C countries: Belgium, Canada, Netherlands, Spain, United States of America (except Guam and Hawaii)*

AVA Import Licence No.: \_\_\_\_\_ Veterinary Certificate No. (if applicable): \_\_\_\_\_

**N.B. A valid AVA Import Licence to import the dog/cat must be obtained before shipment.**

**SECTION I IDENTIFICATION OF THE DOG/CAT**

Species: \_\_\_\_\_

Breed: \_\_\_\_\_

Name of animal: \_\_\_\_\_

Sex (please circle):      Male              Neutered Male              Female              Neutered female

Age or Date of Birth: \_\_\_\_\_ (animal must be at least 12 weeks of age at the time of export)

Colour: \_\_\_\_\_

[N.B. The following breeds and their crosses are prohibited for import: Pit Bull (including the American Pit Bull Terrier also known as the American Pit Bull and Pit Bull Terrier, American Staffordshire Terrier, Staffordshire Bull Terrier, the American Bulldog, and crosses between them and other breeds), Neopolitan Mastiff, Tosa, Akita, Dogo Argentino, Boerboel, Fila Brasileiro and their crosses.]

Microchip Number: \_\_\_\_\_

The animal has been scanned on \_\_\_\_\_ (day/month/year) prior to export and found to be implanted with a microchip bearing the above microchip number, which is also reflected on the animal's vaccination certificate.

**SECTION II ORIGIN OF THE DOG/CAT (indicate the option that applies)**

After due enquiry I am satisfied that the dog/cat (delete as appropriate) identified in this certificate has been continuously resident in the country of export:-

(a) since birth, or

continuously resident in the country of export or in other countries listed in Category A, Category B or Category C:-

(b) since being imported directly from Singapore on \_\_\_\_\_ (day/month/year), or

(c) for a minimum period of 6 months prior to export, and is not under quarantine restriction at the time of export.

**SECTION III SANITARY INFORMATION**

I, \_\_\_\_\_ (Name in BLOCK LETTERS), the undersigned veterinarian, being a Government approved veterinarian / Official government veterinarian (delete as appropriate) of \_\_\_\_\_ (the country of export), certify in respect of the dog/cat (delete as appropriate) described above that:

**General Vaccinations (strike out whichever does not apply)**

For dogs under 16 weeks of age at the time of export:

The dog was vaccinated against Canine Distemper, Canine Infectious Hepatitis, Canine Parvovirus with at least 2 vaccinations, at least 4 weeks apart, with the second vaccination at least 14 days prior to export.



For dogs 16 weeks of age and above at the time of export:

The dog was vaccinated against Canine Distemper, Canine Infectious Hepatitis, Canine Parvovirus with at least 1 vaccination, at least 14 days and not more than 12 months prior to export.

Date of vaccinations:

Canine distemper: \_\_\_\_\_ (day/month/year)

Canine infectious hepatitis: \_\_\_\_\_ (day/month/year)

Canine parvovirus: \_\_\_\_\_ (day/month/year)

For cats under 16 weeks of age at the time of export:

The cat was vaccinated against Feline Calicivirus, Feline Rhinotracheitis Virus, Feline Panleukopenia Virus, *Chlamydophila felis*, with at least 2 vaccinations, at least 3 weeks apart, with the second vaccination at least 14 days prior to export.

For cats 16 weeks of age and above at the time of export:

The cat was vaccinated against Feline Calicivirus, Feline Rhinotracheitis Virus, Feline Panleukopenia Virus, *Chlamydophila felis*, with at least 1 vaccination, at least 14 days and not more than 12 months prior to export.

Date of vaccinations:

Feline Calicivirus: \_\_\_\_\_ (day/month/year)

Feline Rhinotracheitis Virus: \_\_\_\_\_ (day/month/year)

Feline Panleukopenia Virus: \_\_\_\_\_ (day/month/year)

*Chlamydophila felis*: \_\_\_\_\_ (day/month/year)

### **Rabies Vaccinations and Serological Testing**

PLEASE INDICATE THE OPTION THAT APPLIES (STRIKE OUT OPTIONS THAT DO NOT APPLY).

#### Option 1: Category C1

The dog/cat was vaccinated against rabies using an AVA-approved inactivated vaccine on at least two occasions, with the first vaccination at least 4 months prior to export, and the second vaccination at least 1 month after the first vaccination and at least 1 month prior to export. The first vaccination must be valid at the time of administering the second vaccination.

Date of vaccinations:

Rabies (1<sup>st</sup> vaccination): \_\_\_\_\_ (day/month/year)

Rabies (2<sup>nd</sup> vaccination): \_\_\_\_\_ (day/month/year)

At least 1 month (30 days) following the date of the first vaccination and within 6 months prior to export, a blood sample was taken from the dog/cat and tested with an OIE-prescribed test<sup>1</sup> showing a rabies neutralising antibody titre equal to or greater than 0.5 IU/ml. A valid test report must accompany this certification.

Date of blood sampling: \_\_\_\_\_ (day/month/year)

Rabies neutralising antibody titre: \_\_\_\_\_ IU/ml

**Dog/cat imported under this protocol and fulfilling the above would be subjected to quarantine for a period of not less than 10 days upon import.**

<sup>1</sup> Currently, OIE-prescribed tests for international trade for rabies include the Fluorescent Antibody Virus Neutralising (FAVN) Test, the Rapid Fluorescent Focus Inhibition Test (RFFIT), and the Enzyme-linked Immunoassay (ELISA).



## Option 2: Category C2

The dog/cat was vaccinated against rabies using an AVA-approved inactivated vaccine at least 3 months prior to export. The vaccination must be a valid primary vaccination or a valid booster vaccination according to the vaccine manufacturer's recommendations.

Date of rabies vaccination: \_\_\_\_\_ (day/month/year).

At least 1 month (30 days) following the date of this vaccination and within 6 months prior to export, a blood sample was taken from the dog/cat and tested with an OIE-prescribed test<sup>1</sup> showing a rabies neutralising antibody titre equal to or greater than 0.5 IU/ml. A valid test report must accompany this certification.

Date of blood sampling: \_\_\_\_\_ (day/month/year)

Rabies neutralising antibody titre: \_\_\_\_\_ IU/ml

**Dog/cat imported under this protocol and fulfilling the above would be subjected to quarantine for a period of not less than 30 days upon import.**

### **External Parasite Treatment**

The dog/cat was treated with a product effective against external parasites (fleas and ticks) between 2 and 10 days of export.

Date of treatment: \_\_\_\_\_ (day/month/year)

Name of product: \_\_\_\_\_

Active ingredient: \_\_\_\_\_

### **Internal Parasite Treatment**

The dog/cat was treated with a product effective against internal parasites (nematodes and cestodes) within 4 days of export.

Date of treatment: \_\_\_\_\_ (day/month/year)

Name of product: \_\_\_\_\_

Active ingredient: \_\_\_\_\_

### **Pregnancy (for females)**

After due enquiry I am satisfied that the animal is not pregnant at the time of export.

### **Prohibited breeds**

After due enquiry I am satisfied that the animal is not one of the prohibited breeds or crosses as listed in Section I.

### **Clinical examination**

Within 7 days of export I have examined the dog/cat and found it to be healthy, free from any clinical sign of infectious or contagious disease and fit for travel at the time of export.

### **Endorsement**

Sections I to III may be endorsed by a government-approved veterinarian or an official government veterinarian.

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<sup>1</sup> Currently, OIE-prescribed tests for international trade for rabies include the Fluorescent Antibody Virus Neutralising (FAVN) Test, the Rapid Fluorescent Focus Inhibition Test (RFFIT), and the Enzyme-linked Immunoassay (ELISA).



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Signature: \_\_\_\_\_ Date: \_\_\_\_\_ (day/month/year)

Name of government-approved veterinarian or an official government veterinarian (delete as appropriate):

\_\_\_\_\_

Address, telephone, fax, email of practice: \_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_

**SECTION IV (must be endorsed by official government veterinarian)**

I, \_\_\_\_\_ (Name in BLOCK LETTERS),  
the undersigned veterinarian, being an Official government veterinarian of  
\_\_\_\_\_ (the country of export), certify in respect of the dog/cat (delete as  
appropriate) described above that:

After due enquiry and examination of documents, the dog/cat had not been imported into the country (other than from countries listed in Category A, Category B or Category C, or directly from Singapore) during the six (6) months preceding the date of certification below.

I have no reason to doubt the truthfulness of the information given in Sections I to III and am satisfied to the best of my ability that the dog/cat certified above meets with the requirements for importation into Singapore.

**CERTIFICATION VALIDITY: This certification is valid for seven (7) days.**

Signature: \_\_\_\_\_ Date: \_\_\_\_\_ (day/month/year)

Name of official government veterinarian: \_\_\_\_\_

Address, telephone, fax, email contact:

Official Stamp:

\_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_



**FEE SCHEDULE FOR VETERINARY CONDITIONS FOR THE IMPORTATION  
OF DOGS/CATS FOR COUNTRIES UNDER CATEGORIES A, B, C & D**

- (1) **IMPORT LICENCE**
- a) commercial purposes - \$87.00 per consignment
  - b) personal effects - \$50.00 per consignment
- (2) **VETERINARY INSPECTION AND PROCESSING OF DOCUMENTS**
- (a) Professional Service Fee
    - \$133.00 per hour or part thereof  
*(in case where the service is required outside office hours or on an urgent basis)*
    - \$ 63.00 per hour or part thereof  
*(in any other case)*
  - (b) Technical Service Fee
    - \$ 80.00 per hour or part thereof  
*(in case where the service is required outside office hours or on an urgent basis)*
    - \$ 38.00 per hour or part thereof *(in any other case)*
- (3) **ACCOMMODATION AT** - \$26.25 per dog or cat (with feed) for one day or part thereof  
*Changi Animal and Plant Quarantine Unit (CAPQ)*

**Contact of Sembawang Animal Quarantine Station**  
**10, Lorong Chencharu, Singapore 769197**  
**TEL: (65) 6482 2724 FAX: (65) 6482 2726**

- (4) **TRANSPORT CHARGE** - \$74.00 per animal per trip  
*(from Changi Animal & Plant Quarantine Unit to Sembawang Animal Quarantine Station)*
- (5) **RABIES VACCINATION** - \$65.00 per animal
- (6) **QUARANTINE FEES** - \$16.80 per animal per day or part thereof  
*(at Sembawang Animal Quarantine Station)*  
(non-air conditioned, with feed);  
\$26.25 per animal per day or part thereof  
(air conditioned, with feed)

**A dog licence is obtainable at the Centre for Animal Welfare & Control, 75 Pasir Panjang Road, 7 ¾ km, Singapore 118507. Tel: (065) 6471-9987**

- (7) **LICENCE FEE FOR DOGS OTHER THAN IN DOG FARMS**
- (a) For a dog below 5 months of age - \$14.00 per annum
  - (b) For a sterilized dog - \$14.00 per annum
  - (c) For a non-sterilized dog - \$70.00 per annum
  - (d) For a fourth or subsequent dog \$175.00 per annum
  - (e) For the replacement of a badge - \$12.00

*(as at 01 Jun 2009)*