

Guidance information regarding the use of the

“VETERINARY HEALTH AND ORIGIN CERTIFICATE OF CATS/DOGS/FERRETS WITH THE PASSENGER INTENDED TO MOVEMENTS TO THE REPUBLIC OF TURKEY”

For U.S. origin dogs, cats and ferrets

- The International Health Certificate is for **ONE** pet dog, cat or ferret that is accompanying a traveler. Multiple pets cannot be listed on the certificate; rather each pet would require individual certificates.
- The International Health Certificate must be issued by a USDA Accredited Veterinarian (i.e. the “official veterinarian”), and must then be endorsed by APHIS (i.e. the “competent authority”).
- The pet must either be microchipped or tattooed, and this identification must be verified by the USDA Accredited Veterinarian.
- For pets over 12 weeks of age:
 - 1.) **Must** be current on its rabies vaccinations, using an inactivated vaccine that is licensed for use in the United States. A copy of the current rabies vaccination certificate should be included with the International Health Certificate.
 - 2.) Should have a valid rabies titer test. The test result remains valid indefinitely as long as there has been no lapse in vaccination coverage since the date of the rabies titer test, and all vaccinations subsequent to the test date are documented on the health certificate. A copy of the rabies titer laboratory report should be attached to the International Health Certificate.
NOTE: It is APHIS understanding that for pet dogs, cats and ferrets, a valid rabies titer test is required for entry; otherwise a 21-day quarantine and rabies titer testing upon arrival in Turkey may occur.
- For pets less than 12 weeks of age, either:
 - 1.) The owner declares at the border entry in Turkey that the animal will be put into a 21 day home quarantine; **OR**
 - 2.) The puppy is accompanied with an identity card/health certificate and a declaration (issued by the USDA accredited veterinarian) stating that the animal has not been in contact with wild animals since its birth; **OR**
 - 3.) The animal is accompanied by its birth mother, who is current on rabies vaccinations as stated on the health certificate.
- An ectoparasite treatment effective against **ticks** should be administered to the pet within 30 days of travel, and indicated by the signature of the USDA Accredited Veterinarian.
- An anthelmintic treatment effective against **Echinococcus** (i.e. tapeworms) should be administered to the pet within 30 days of travel, and indicated by the signature of the USDA Accredited Veterinarian.
- In total, the USDA Accredited Veterinarian should sign the International Health Certificate in **THREE (3) locations**, within 10 days of APHIS endorsement.
- USDA Accredited Veterinarians can sign and issue the International Health Certificates for pets to Turkey **electronically** through the Veterinary Export Health Certification System (VEHCS). Download the fillable PDF file, complete and sign digitally (i.e. using Adobe Acrobat) and submit for APHIS endorsement through VEHCS. APHIS will print, endorse, and return the original per your instruction.
- International Health Certificates should be endorsed by APHIS no more than two (2) calendar days prior to departure to Turkey. Under the “Notes for guidance” section of the certificate, item 3 is referring to the validity of the document after the pet has entered Turkey.