



CDC Information Sheet for Importers of Dogs Arriving by Air

(includes private aircraft)



Effective August 1, 2024, entry requirements for ALL dogs (including service dogs) arriving in the United States by air must:

- Be at least 6 months of age or older;
- Appear healthy on arrival;
- Be accompanied by veterinary documentation with a microchip number included on the form;
- Be accompanied by a receipt of the *CDC Dog Import Form* receipt; and
- Have an air waybill (AWB) regardless of whether dogs were transported as cargo, checked baggage, or hand-carried baggage on all flights.



Scan here to find our dog importation homepage.

Additional entry requirements depend on which countries the dog has been in during the past 6 months and where the dog was vaccinated against rabies.

Foreign-vaccinated dogs arriving from [high-risk countries](#) by air:

- Must arrive at a port with a [CDC-registered animal care facility \(ACF\)](#).
 - The ports are: ATL, IAD, JFK, LAX, MIA, and PHL.
- Must have a reservation at the ACF prior to arrival.

U.S.-vaccinated dogs arriving from [high-risk countries](#) by air:

- Allowed to enter at any ports with one of the following:
 - *Certification of U.S.-Issued Rabies Vaccination* form with valid rabies vaccination date included on form
 - During the transition period: A USDA-endorsed export health certificate with a valid (not expired) U.S.-rabies vaccine listed on the form
 - The export health certificate must have been issued before August 1, 2024.
 - The export health certificate must be for the country where the dog's return itinerary originated.

Dogs arriving from dog rabies-free or low-risk countries by air:

- Allowed to enter at any port with one of the following documents, provided they are valid (not expired):
 - *Certification of Foreign Rabies Vaccination and Microchip* form completed in a dog rabies-free or low-risk country + titer, veterinary records, **OR** proof of veterinary payment for services completed in the exporting country at least six months prior to traveling to the United States **AND**
 - The initial rabies vaccine must be given at least 28 days before arrival **OR**
 - *Certification of U.S.-Issued Rabies Vaccination* form **OR**
 - A USDA-endorsed export health certificate
 - The export health certificate must be for the country where the dog's return itinerary originated **OR**
 - A foreign export health certificate from a dog rabies-free or low-risk country stating the dog is at least six months old and listing the microchip number.
 - The export health certificate must be certified by an official veterinarian in the exporting country **AND**
 - Foreign veterinary records (such as the EU Pet Passport) or proof of veterinary payment for services completed in the exporting country at least six months prior to traveling to the United States must accompany the export certificate **OR**
 - A *Certification of dog arriving from rabies-free or low-risk country* form with attached foreign veterinary records **OR** proof of veterinary payment for services completed in a dog rabies-free or low-risk country at least six months prior to traveling to the United States.
 - The form must be certified by an official veterinarian in the exporting country **AND**
 - Documents must be from the same country where the dog's itinerary originated.