



**STARWOOD**  
PET TRAVEL

M Y P E T C B

## Requirements for Dogs Coming Into the USA

### Overview

The CDC has updated its dog importation regulations in 2024, which will go into effect on **August 1, 2024**. The requirements will depend on where your dog has resided in the last 6 months and where the last rabies vaccination was administered.

### Countries considered high risk for rabies

Afghanistan, Algeria, Angola, Armenia, Azerbaijan, Bangladesh, Belarus, Belize, Benin, Bolivia, Botswana, Brazil, Burkina Faso, Burundi, Cambodia, Cameroon, Central African Republic, Ceuta, Chad, China (excluding Hong Kong, Macau, and Taiwan), Colombia, Comoros, Côte d'Ivoire (Ivory Coast), Cuba, Democratic Republic of the Congo, Djibouti, Dominican Republic, Ecuador, Egypt, El Salvador, Equatorial Guinea, Eritrea, Eswatini (Swaziland), Ethiopia, Gabon, Gambia, Georgia, Ghana, Guatemala, Guinea, Guinea-Bissau, Guyana, Haiti, Honduras, India, Indonesia, Iran, Iraq, Israel (including the West Bank and Gaza): effective August 1, 2024, Jordan, Kazakhstan, Kenya, Kuwait, Kyrgyzstan, Laos, Lebanon, Lesotho, Liberia, Libya, Madagascar, Malawi, Malaysia, Mali, Mauritania, Melilla, Moldova, Mongolia, Morocco (including Western Sahara), Mozambique, Myanmar (Burma), Namibia, Nepal, Niger, Nigeria, North Korea, Oman, Pakistan, Peru, Philippines, Qatar, Republic of the Congo, Russia, Rwanda, São Tomé and Príncipe, Saudi Arabia, Senegal, Sierra Leone, Somalia, South Africa, South Sudan, Sri Lanka, Sudan, Suriname, Syria, Tajikistan, Tanzania (Including Zanzibar), Thailand, Timor-Leste: effective August 1, 2024, Togo, Tunisia, Turkey, Turkmenistan, Uganda, Ukraine, United Arab Emirates, Uzbekistan, Venezuela, Vietnam, Yemen, Zambia, Zimbabwe

**\*\*If your dog is traveling from a country NOT included on the list above, then it is considered a rabies-free or rabies-controlled country.**

## US-Vaccinated Dogs coming from countries that are rabies-free or low-risk

The dog must have been in the low-risk or rabies-free country within the last 6 months.

### Requirements for ALL dogs

- At least 6 months old
- Have an ISO-compatible microchip implanted/scanned BEFORE the rabies vaccination
- Appear healthy upon arrival
- Have a CDC Dog Import Form receipt (completed 2-10 days prior to arrival)
- Arrive at the location listed on the CDC Dog Import Form receipt (Can be any airport, land border crossing, or sea port but you must select it when completing the CDC Dog Import Form.)

### Additional requirements for dogs coming from rabies-free or low-risk countries that were vaccinated for rabies in the USA

Have ONE of the following documents:

- A Certification of US-Issued Rabies Vaccine form that was endorsed by USDA before the dog left the United States; OR
- A USDA endorsed export health certificate showing the microchip number, age and either:
  - Be for the rabies-free or low-risk country where the dog's return itinerary originated (the form will only be valid for 30 days if it does not contain rabies vaccination information), OR
  - Shows a valid (unexpired) rabies vaccination administered in the United States (the form is valid for the duration of the rabies vaccination).

## Foreign-Vaccinated Dogs coming from countries that are rabies-free or low-risk

The dog must have been in the low-risk or rabies-free country within the last 6 months.

### Requirements for ALL dogs

- Be at least 6 months old
- Have an ISO-compatible microchip implanted/scanned BEFORE the rabies vaccination
- Appear healthy upon arrival
- Have a CDC Dog Import Form receipt (completed 2-10 days prior to arrival)
- Arrive at the location listed on the CDC Dog Import Form receipt (Can be any airport, land border crossing, or sea port but you must select it when completing the CDC Dog Import Form.)

### Additional requirements for dogs coming from rabies-free or low-risk countries that were vaccinated for rabies in a foreign country

- Have ONE of the following:
  - *Certification of Dog Arriving from DMRVV-free or Low-Risk Country into the United States form*
    - Must be endorsed by an official veterinarian in the exporting country
    - Must also include ONE of the following:
      - Valid rabies titer blood test, OR
      - Veterinary records (including the microchip number) from the exporting country for the last 6 months.
    - The form is valid for 30 days if it does not have information about a rabies vaccination administered in a rabies-free or low-risk country, OR for the duration the rabies vaccination is valid (1 to 3 years) if the rabies vaccination was administered in a rabies-free or low-risk country
  - *Certification of Foreign Rabies Vaccination and Microchip form*
    - Must be endorsed by an official veterinarian in the exporting country
    - Must also include ONE of the following:
      - Valid rabies titer blood test, OR
      - Veterinary records (including the microchip number) from the exporting country for the last 6 months.
    - Must be completed within 30 days prior to arrival to the United States and is valid for one entry.
  - *Certification of U.S.-Issued Rabies Vaccination form*
    - Must have been endorsed by USDA before the dog departed the United States
  - *Valid USDA-endorsed export health certificate* that either:
    - Is TO the rabies-free or low-risk country where the dog's is returning from

(valid for 30 days if it does not contain rabies vaccination information), OR

- Shows a valid (unexpired) rabies vaccination administered in the United States (valid for the duration of the rabies vaccination)

- *Foreign export certificate*

- Must be issued within 30 days prior to arrival to the US
- Must show the dog is at least 6 months old
- Must include the microchip number
- Must be endorsed by an official veterinarian of the exporting country
- Must include veterinary records (including the microchip number) from the exporting country for the last 6 months.

## US-Vaccinated Dogs coming from countries that are high risk for rabies

This applies to any dog that has been in a high-risk rabies country within the last 6 months.

### Requirements for ALL dogs

- At least 6 months old
- Have an ISO-compatible microchip implanted/scanned BEFORE the rabies vaccination
- Appear healthy upon arrival
- Have a CDC Dog Import Form receipt (completed 2-10 days prior to arrival)
- Arrive at the location listed on the CDC Dog Import Form receipt (Can be any airport, land border crossing, or sea port but you must select it when completing the CDC Dog Import Form.)

### Additional requirements for dogs coming from high-risk rabies countries that were vaccinated for rabies in the USA

- Must have a *Certification of U.S.-Issued Rabies Vaccine form*
  - Must be endorsed by USDA before the dog departed the United States

\*\*During the transition period (expires July 31, 2025), the importer may instead present a copy of the USDA endorsed export health certificate that was used to ship the dog from the United States, if that export health certificate shows the dog's age (at least 6 months), microchip number, and valid rabies vaccination administered in the United States. The rabies vaccination must be valid (not expired) on the date of return or the form is not considered valid.

## Foreign-Vaccinated Dogs coming from countries that are high risk for rabies

This applies to any dog that has been in a high-risk rabies country within the last 6 months.

\*\*These dogs may only arrive at designated ports (ATL, LAX, MIA, JFK, IAD, PHL).

### Requirements for ALL dogs

- Be at least 6 months old
- Have an ISO-compatible microchip BEFORE the rabies vaccination
- Appear healthy upon arrival
- Have a CDC Dog Import Form receipt (completed 2-10 days prior to arrival)
- Arrive at the location listed on the CDC Dog Import Form receipt

### Additional requirements for dogs coming from high-risk rabies countries that were vaccinated for rabies in a foreign country

- Have a *Certification of Foreign Rabies Vaccination and Microchip form*
  - The microchip number must be listed on all documents
  - The dog must be at least 12 weeks old at the time of vaccination
  - The dog must receive a valid (non-expired) rabies vaccination at least 28 days prior to arrival to the US.
  - This form must be completed by an accredited veterinarian AND endorsed by an official veterinarian in the exporting country.
- Have a valid rabies titer blood test (not required if the dog has a reservation for the 28-day quarantine at a CDC-registered animal care facility)
  - The blood sample must be drawn at least 30 days after the first valid rabies vaccination and at least 28 days prior to arrival in the US. (If the dog has a history of previous rabies vaccinations with no lapse, the blood can be drawn at any time after the most recent booster.)
  - The blood sample must be sent to a [CDC-approved rabies serology laboratory](#). If there is no CDC-approved laboratory in your country, the veterinarian may draw the sample and send it internationally to a CDC-approved laboratory.
  - The results of the titer must be  $\geq 0.5$  IU/mL
  - The titer results are valid for the life of the dog as long as the rabies vaccination coverage does not lapse.
  - If the dog does not have a valid rabies serology titer, then they must be quarantined at a CDC-registered animal care facility for 28 days upon arrival and will be revaccinated for rabies by the facility's veterinarian.

- Have a reservation at a [CDC-registered animal care facility](#) for examination and revaccination (and quarantine if the dog does not have a valid rabies serology titer)
- Have an international flight that arrives directly at the airport with the CDC-registered animal care facility where the dog has a reservation - this must be the same airport listed on the CDC Dog Import Form receipt. Arrival at other airports with a domestic flight to the CDC facility is NOT permitted.

The approval arrival ports include: ATL, LAX, MIA, JFK, IAD, or PHL

**\*\*SERVICE DOGS ARRIVING BY SEA:** Service dogs, (14 CFR 382.3), may arrive by sea if they meet the requirements in the “All Dogs” section, have a Certification of Foreign Rabies Vaccination and Microchip form and a valid rabies titer test, and are traveling with their handler. Emotional support animals are not considered service animals.

## **Additional Resources**

[New CDC Requirements for Dogs](#)

[USDA APHIS Requirements](#)

[CDC-Registered Animal Care Facilities](#)

[Approved Rabies Serology Labs](#)

[High-Risk Rabies Countries](#)