

## Guidance for Pets Traveling to Another Country

from Arizona, Connecticut, Delaware, District of Columbia, Maine, Maryland, Massachusetts, New Hampshire, New Jersey, New Mexico, New York, North Carolina, Pennsylvania, Rhode Island, Vermont, Virginia, and West Virginia

### How do I know what a pet needs to travel to another country?

Please visit the USDA APHIS Pet Travel Website to obtain detailed information for taking a pet to another country, including requirements for returning to the U.S.: <https://www.aphis.usda.gov/aphis/pet-travel>

### How do I obtain USDA APHIS endorsement of a health certificate?

If the pet's destination country requires endorsement of the health certificate by USDA APHIS, submit the health certificate to the Endorsement Office serving your state. You may either:

- Ship the health certificate to your Endorsement Office ← **this is how most certificates are endorsed!**
  - We recommend overnight express courier to and from your Endorsement Office for speedy delivery and return.
- Schedule an appointment with your Endorsement Office for in person endorsement.
  - **Appointments are required.** However, a certificate can be dropped off without an appointment.
- **NEW ELECTRONIC CERTIFICATION!** More and more countries now accept the electronic submission of health certificates with the Veterinary Export Health Certification System (VEHCS). For more information on how VEHCS can **save you time and money**, see the VEHCS Help Page: <https://www.aphis.usda.gov/aphis/pet-travel/helpful-references/vehcs-info>

### How quickly will you endorse my health certificate?

Certificates are generally processed and returned the business day they're received as long as there's no missing or incorrect information. VEHCS certificates must be submitted by 12pm EST for same business day endorsement, but information is missing or incorrect, that can cause delays in endorsement beyond that day.

### How much does it cost to endorse my health certificate?

- If no laboratory test results are required to review: \$38.00 per certificate.
- If 1 - 2 required laboratory tests results to review: \$121.00 for the first animal and \$7.00 for each additional animal **on the SAME certificate.**
- If 3 - 6 required laboratory tests results to review: \$150.00 for the first animal and \$12.00 for each additional animal **on the SAME certificate.**

### How do I pay for the health certificate?

You may pay with either a USDA APHIS User Fee Credit Account, check or money order made payable to the USDA, or credit card. *Checks must contain the payer's name and mailing address.* **We do not accept cash.** *An endorsement fee is waived for service animals **as defined by the Americans with Disabilities Act** (<https://www.ada.gov/>).*

### I want to send my health certificate to your office. How do I do that?

- We recommend using overnight express service to minimize delays in sending your health certificate to and from your Endorsement Office.
- In order for the health certificate to be returned by overnight delivery, **you must provide a PRE-PAID return label with your submission. The label must be purchased and paid for (meaning the label is not paid for at the time of pickup of your package). We do not accept shipping labels with credit cards on them; if you need to pay by credit card, you must have the service provider charge your card before generating the label.**



- If your health certificate was endorsed that day, FedEx, UPS, or USPS will pick up the package from your Endorsement Office in the evening.
  - **UPS Ground, FedEx Ground, and FedEx Home service do not pick up at our offices.** If you choose to use this type of service shipping label, there may be a one business day delay in your package's return to you.
- We recommend using a service provider that uses a tracking number to allow the package's progress to be tracked to and from the endorsing office, and to decrease the chance of the package being lost in transit. **It is your responsibility to keep a record of the tracking number.**
- **IF YOU USE FEDEX: the USDA office's address should not appear anywhere on your return label. Your name and address should appear in both the sender and recipient's block of the return label.**
- If a return label is not included and we are unable to reach you to arrange for another method of return delivery, then we will return your package using USPS First Class Mail.



# Pet Export Checklist

## USDA-APHIS-Veterinary Services, Service Center, Albany

*This checklist should be included with your other documents when you submit your health certificate(s) to us for endorsement.*

OWNER/EXPORTER'S INFORMATION	
Name:	
Telephone number(s):	
Email address:	
<b>Date of departure:</b>	
<b>Destination country:</b>	
USDA ACCREDITED VETERINARIAN'S INFORMATION	
Name:	
Clinic Name:	
Telephone number(s):	
Email address:	

### CHECKLIST

<input type="checkbox"/>	Export Health Certificate(s). <b>Make sure it is signed and dated by your veterinarian and includes the country of destination in the Consignee section. If a microchip number is recorded in the health certificate, make sure it's the correct number.</b>
<input type="checkbox"/>	Rabies Vaccination Certificate. <b>If rabies vaccination information (e.g., date of vaccination, date of expiration of vaccination, rabies vaccine brand name and/or manufacturer, or serial number) is recorded on the health certificate, make sure it matches the rabies vaccination certificate's information.</b>
<input type="checkbox"/>	Rabies Titer Laboratory Report <i>(if applicable)</i>
<input type="checkbox"/>	Other Required Test Results <i>(if applicable)</i>
<input type="checkbox"/>	Import permit <i>(if applicable)</i>
<input type="checkbox"/>	Payment Enclosed. <b>Either USDA APHIS User Fee Credit Account, check/money order payable to "USDA", or credit card information. Checks must contain the payer's name and mailing address. We do NOT accept cash.</b>
<input type="checkbox"/>	Prepaid Express Return Label <i>(FedEx, UPS, or USPS)*</i> <b>Make sure to keep a record of the return tracking number. USDA cannot provide this information on an individual basis.</b>
<input type="checkbox"/>	Date of departure from the U.S. is provided above.
<input type="checkbox"/>	Email addresses of <b>both</b> the Owner/Exporter and Veterinarian are provided above. <b>By providing this information, you ensure we can immediately notify all involved parties if problems are found with the health certificate(s).</b>

**FAILURE TO PROVIDE ALL REQUIRED DOCUMENTATION MAY RESULT IN A DELAY IN ENDORSEMENT**

*\*IMPORTANT: YOUR NAME AND ADDRESS SHOULD APPEAR IN BOTH THE SENDER AND RECIPIENT'S BLOCKS OF THE RETURN LABEL. The USDA address cannot appear anywhere on your return label. The label must be purchased and paid for. We cannot accept a FedEx, UPS or USPS label with a credit card number listed as the payment method. If you want the return shipping charged to a credit card you have to visit their store location or website and pre-enter the information in the preprinted label.*