

**Animal Health Update: New CDC Dog Importation Regulations in Effect August 1, 2024**  
**6.11.2024**

**Key Points:**

- **New federal regulations for dogs entering the United States will go into effect on August 1, 2024.**
- **These rules will apply to all foreign dogs entering the U.S as well as all dogs from the U.S who traveled abroad and are re-entering the U.S., including service and working dogs.**
- **USDA-accredited veterinarians who complete health certificates for dogs traveling abroad may also need to complete a Certification of U.S-Issued Rabies Vaccination (For Live Dog Re-Entry into the United States) and should familiarize themselves with the new regulations and the Veterinary Export Health Certification System (VEHCS).**
- **Veterinarians in LA County who work with imported animals and international animal organizations should educate clients and staff about best practices to mitigate imported disease risks and report any diseases or conditions to VPH.**

Dear Veterinary Colleagues:

The Centers for Disease Control (CDC) have announced new regulations for all dogs entering the United States. These new rules go into effect August 1, 2024, and apply to foreign dogs entering the United States, as well as dogs from the United States who traveled abroad and are re-entering the United States, including service and working dogs.

All dogs entering the United States must:

- Be at least 6 months of age at the time of entry or return to the United States.
- Have an implanted International Organization for Standardization (ISO) compatible microchip.
- Appear healthy on arrival.
- Have a receipt proving they filed a CDC Dog Import Form (free of charge, online form for owners to complete, does not require veterinarian exam or signature).
- Have additional documentation which will vary depending on where the dog has been in the 6 months before entering or returning to the United States, or if the dog has a current rabies vaccine administered in the United States.
  - Some additional documentation requires USDA-accredited Veterinarians to complete the forms. USDA Accredited Veterinarians should familiarize themselves with the requirements, forms, and educate clients who are planning to travel with their dogs.
- For additional information about requirements:
  - <https://www.cdc.gov/importation/bringing-an-animal-into-the-united-states/dogs-entering-us-after-august-1.html#requirements>

- [https://www.cdc.gov/importation/pdf/PRA-2-1-Template-Change-TI-for-US-Vaccinated-Dogs\\_USDA.pdf](https://www.cdc.gov/importation/pdf/PRA-2-1-Template-Change-TI-for-US-Vaccinated-Dogs_USDA.pdf)
- CDC Dogbot tool: <https://www.cdc.gov/importation/bringing-an-animal-into-the-united-states/dogs.html>

CDC is offering a webinar for USDA-accredited veterinarians on June 27, 2024, from 2:00 - 3:00 pm PST, to discuss CDC's new dog importation requirements. Staff from CDC's Zoonoses Prevention and Import Regulations Team will describe the updated dog regulation (effective August 1, 2024), with special emphasis on how the regulation affects USDA-accredited veterinarians and their clients. There will be a Q&A portion and the session will be recorded.

Registration is limited.

[Webinar Registration - Zoom \(zoomgov.com\)](#)

### **Veterinary Export Health Certification System (VEHCS) for USDA-accredited veterinarians:**

For questions or concerns regarding the Veterinary Export Health Certification System (VEHCS), please contact USDA or use the helpful links below:

- [Veterinary Export Health Certification System \(VEHCS\) Help Page](#)
- [Quick Reference Guides for VEHCS Users](#)
  - [Accessing VEHCS for the First Time](#)
  - [FAQ for VEHCS](#)
  - [Step-By-Step Guide to Using VEHCS](#)
  - [How to Provide a Pre-Paid Return Shipping Label](#)
  - [VEHCS Training for Accredited Veterinarians: NAVP Module 34](#)

For VEHCS Help:

- User ID, password, and technical support related to login: **eAuthentication Support:** [aehd@usda.gov](mailto:aehd@usda.gov)
- VEHCS/PCIT technical support, organization administration issues: **VEHCS/PCIT Help Desk:** [pcithelpdesk@usda.gov](mailto:pcithelpdesk@usda.gov)
- Issuing export certificates, interpreting regulation and requirements, payment (user fees), etc.: [APHIS Endorsement Offices](#)

The importation of animals into the U.S is under the jurisdiction of the federal government and not local government. However, the importation of foreign animal diseases and vectors including insects occurs and can affect humans and animals in the local community. If you are a

veterinarian who works with imported animals or international animal rescue organizations, please educate your staff and clients about best practices to mitigate disease risks including:

- Having imported animals examined, treated, and healthy prior to arrival in the U.S.
- Scheduling a veterinary exam for each imported pet following arrival into the U.S and ensuring the pet is healthy, all vaccinations, ectoparasite, and internal parasite prevention are up to date.
- Quarantining all imported animals for 30 days prior to introducing them to other local pets.
- Reporting imported diseases to VPH. Please refer to the [2024 Reportable Animal Disease List for Los Angeles County](#).

Veterinary Public Health is available if you have questions or concerns. Please reach out to us by phone at 213-288-7060 (Monday – Friday, 8am-5pm) or email at [vet@ph.lacounty.gov](mailto:vet@ph.lacounty.gov).

Sincerely,

Karen Ehnert, DVM, MPVM, DACVPM  
Director  
Veterinary Public Health  
Los Angeles County Department of Public Health  
313 N. Figueroa St, Room 1127  
Los Angeles, CA 90012  
(213) 288-7060  
(213) 481-2375 Fax  
[kehner@ph.lacounty.gov](mailto:kehner@ph.lacounty.gov)  
<http://publichealth.lacounty.gov/vet/>

Please email [vet@ph.lacounty.gov](mailto:vet@ph.lacounty.gov) if you wish to unsubscribe or need other AHAN-related assistance. To sign up for future Animal Health Alerts or to view previously released AHANs, please visit <http://publichealth.lacounty.gov/vet/AHAN.htm>.

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