



Suspension of Dogs Entering the United States from Countries at High Risk for Rabies

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Centers for Disease Control and Prevention**

IATA Webinar

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Purpose and Audience



Purpose: To review the temporary suspension of dogs entering the U.S. from countries at high risk for canine rabies virus variant



Audience: International air carriers

The What and Why: A temporary suspension of dog importations from countries at high risk for canine rabies

CDC's Temporary Suspension of Dog Importations from Countries at High Risk for Rabies

Effective July 14, 2021, no dogs* arriving from rabies high-risk countries will be allowed entry into the U.S.



Suspension also includes dogs that have **visited a high-risk country** in the past 6 months, even if they are arriving from a country not at high risk.



CDC will review this suspension periodically.

Why Is CDC Taking This Action?



To ensure the health and safety of dogs imported into the United States



To decrease attempts to import inadequately vaccinated dogs



To protect the public's health against the reintroduction of canine rabies virus variant

Federal Register Notice on Temporary Suspension: <https://www.cdc.gov/importation/bringing-an-animal-into-the-united-states/high-risk-dog-ban-frn.html>

FAQs on Temporary Suspension: <https://www.cdc.gov/importation/bringing-an-animal-into-the-united-states/faqs-about-high-risk-dog-ban.html>

The Where: High-risk countries for canine rabies

Dogs arriving from these countries and dogs that visited these countries in the past 6 months cannot enter the US

Map of High-risk Countries for Canine Rabies



List of countries classified by CDC as high risk for rabies:

<https://www.cdc.gov/importation/bringing-an-animal-into-the-united-states/high-risk.html>

The Who: Those Who Can Apply for a CDC Dog Import Permit

Exceptions to the Suspension

Exceptions to the Suspension: How to Obtain a CDC Dog Import Permit for a Dog from a High-Risk Country

CDC Dog Import Permits are granted on an **extremely limited** case-by-case basis.



Permits will **not** be issued at ports of entry.



Submit applications for CDC Dog Import Permit to cdcanimalimports@cdc.gov at least **30 business days (6 weeks)** before planned travel to the US

How to apply for a permit: <https://www.cdc.gov/importation/bringing-an-animal-into-the-united-states/apply-dog-import-permit.html>

Permit application instructions: <https://www.cdc.gov/importation/bringing-an-animal-into-the-united-states/import-permit-application-instructions.html>

Who Can Apply for a Permit?

Personal pet owners must be one of the following:

U.S. government employee with either:



Permanent change of station



Temporary duty orders

U.S. citizen / lawful U.S. resident permanently relocating to the U.S.



Potential reasons to relocate include employment, education, etc.

Owner of a service dog, as defined in [14 CFR part 382](#)

Service Dogs: DOT Americans with Disabilities Act



“*Service animal* means any guide dog, signal dog, or other animal **individually trained** to work or perform tasks for an individual with a disability”



Does not include: emotional support animals, comfort animals, companionship animals, and service animals in training

Who Can Apply for a Permit? (2)

Owners of dogs that are not personal pets must be importing:

Research/working dogs



Only permitted for **science, education, exhibition, or law enforcement** purposes

Who Cannot Apply for a Permit?

CDC Dog Import Permits for dogs from high-risk countries will **NOT** be issued to import dogs for:



Rescue, resale, or transfer of ownership



Short-term travel to and from high-risk countries with personal pet dogs



Brokers, agents, shippers may not apply on behalf of an importer.

The How: Permit Application Requirements

Permit Application Requirements

The dog must meet four requirements:

1

Be at least **6 months old**

2

Be **microchipped**

3

Have a valid rabies vaccination certificate

4

Have a rabies serologic titer from an approved laboratory if vaccinated outside of the United States

Permit Application Stipulations

Application submission does **NOT** guarantee approval.



Denied permit applications **cannot** be appealed.

Dogs with a CDC Dog Import Permit **must** enter the US through a port of entry (POE) that has a live animal care facility with a CBP-issued FIRMS code.*



Current approved POE: **JFK International Airport** in New York City. Approved list of POEs updated here: <https://www.cdc.gov/importation/bringing-an-animal-into-the-united-states/apply-dog-import-permit.html>

Importers may be granted permits for a maximum of **3** personal pet dogs for **only one trip** during temporary suspension.

*A FIRMS code is a four-digit identifier assigned by US Customs and Border Protection (CBP).

How to Review: CDC Dog Import Permits

CDC Logo (Step 1)

PHS Permit Number (Step 1)

Date Issued (Step 2)

Expiration Date (Step 2)

Dog Identification (Step 3)

Arrival Information (Step 4)

U.S. DEPARTMENT OF HEALTH AND HUMAN SERVICES
PUBLIC HEALTH SERVICE
Centers for Disease Control and Prevention
Division of Global Migration and Quarantine, MS E-28
Atlanta, Georgia 30329-4027
TEL: 404-498-1600 E-mail: cdcanimalimports@cdc.gov



U.S. Department of Health and Human Services
Centers for Disease Control and Prevention

Permit to Conditionally Import a Dog Inadequately Immunized against Rabies - Single Entry

In accordance with 42 CFR Section 71.51 of the Public Health Service Foreign Quarantine Regulations, permission is granted to the applicant to import the dog (listed in item 3 below) into the specified port of entry under control of the United States.

PHS Permit No.		1704-17-213-0002	
Date Issued: 07/17/2017		Date Expires: 8/15/2017	
1. Applicant Name, Address, Contact Information		Lilah Dyer 150 Wag Ave Atlanta, GA 30333 40412344567 Lilah@cdc.gov Passport #: 1234564 United States	
2. Authorized Permit Holder, Address, Contact Information (if different than above)			
3. Identification of Dog		Date of Birth: 4/12/2017 Breed: Mixed Breed ‡ Sex: Female Neutered Rabies Vaccination: 7/12/2017	Age: 3 months up to 4 months Color: Brown and white Microchip #: 123412341234123 Tattoo #:
4. Arrival Information		Country of Origin: Greece Arrival Date: 8/1/2017	U.S. Port of Entry: Hartsfield-Jackson Atlanta International Airport (ATL), GA Mode of Entry: Air
5. Approved Confinement Location		150 Wag Ave Atlanta, GA 30333 40412344567 Dog may not be moved from the approved confinement location (except to go to a veterinary facility for medical treatment or vaccination) until the conditions of issuance in item 6 below are satisfied.	
6. Conditions of Issuance		Confinement until initial antirabies vaccination at destination (within 10 days of entry into the United States), followed by confinement for 28 days. The above restrictions are imposed under section 71.51 Title 42, Code of Federal Regulations, and compliance is necessary before the dog is released from confinement. * Confinement* as used above, means restriction of an animal, by the owner or his/her agent, to a building or other enclosure isolated from people and other animals (except for contact necessary for its care); if the dog is allowed out of said enclosure, muzzle the dog and keep it on a leash. NOTICE TO PERMITEE: Criminal penalties may be imposed for violating regulations enacted under 42 U.S.C. § 264, Under 42 U.S.C. § 271, as enhanced by 18 U.S.C. §§3559 & 3571, individuals violating a quarantine regulation may be sentenced to one year in jail and/or a maximum fine of \$100,000, if the violation does not result in a death or \$250,000, if the violation results in a death. Violations by an organization are punishable by a maximum fine of up to \$200,000 per violation, if the violation does not result in a death, or \$500,000 per violation, if the violation results in a death.	
7. Issuing Public Health Officer		 Clive M. Brown, MBBS, MPH, MSc, DTM&H (London) Chief, Quarantine and Border Health Services	

U.S. Customs and Border Protection should contact the CDC Quarantine Station with jurisdiction with any questions:
<http://www.cdc.gov/quarantine/quarantinestationcontactistfull.html>

The How: Denied Dog Entry Process

In What Situations Will Dogs Get Denied Entry?

If the dog is arriving from a high-risk country and



It does not have a valid CDC Dog Import Permit

OR



It arrives with a permit, but at a non-approved POE

OR



Dog does not match the permit presented upon arrival

Dogs not meeting requirements will be denied entry and returned to country of departure at importer's expense.

Summary

Summary

Effective July 14, 2021, CDC is temporarily suspending importation of dogs from rabies high-risk countries.

CDC Dog Import Permits will be granted on an **extremely limited** case-by-case basis.

Dogs without a permit will be denied entry and returned to the country of departure at the owner's expense.

No permits will be given upon arrival, and no appeal will be given for denied permit applications.

For Airlines: How to Review a CDC Dog Import Permit

This job aid provides airlines with step-by-step guidance in how to review a CDC Import Dog Permit.



Beginning July 14, 2021, there is a [temporary suspension](#) for dogs imported from countries that CDC considers [high risk for dog rabies](#). This includes dogs arriving from countries NOT at high risk if the dogs have been in any high-risk country during the previous 6 months. Dogs from high-risk countries may be imported **only with CDC's advance written approval (CDC Dog Import Permit)**.

Steps to Review a Permit

1. Ensure CDC logo and permit number are included.
2. Confirm the permit number has not expired (permit is valid between the date of issue and expiration date).
3. Verify the dog presented to the airline agents matches the description on the permit.
4. Confirm arrival information. The arrival date can be different than the flight date due to changes in travel plans. As long as travel is occurring between the date issued and the permit expiration date, travel can occur.

Permit Elements

CDC Logo (Step 1)



PHS Permit Number (Step 1)

Date Issued (Step 2)

Expiration Date (Step 2)

Dog Identification (Step 3)

Arrival Information (Step 4)

U.S. DEPARTMENT OF HEALTH AND HUMAN SERVICES CDC PUBLIC HEALTH SERVICE Center for Disease Control and Prevention Division of Field Migration and Quarantine, MS B-38 Atlanta, Georgia 30334-0227 TEL: 404-616-1000 Email: cibureau@hhs.gov		 U.S. Department of Health and Human Services Center for Disease Control and Prevention
Permit to Conditionally Import a Dog Inadequately Insured against Rabies - Single Entry In Accordance with CDC Section 71.5 of the Public Health Service Foreign Quarantine Regulations, permission is granted to the applicant to import the dog listed in this permit into the specified part of entry under control of the United States.		
Date Issued: 01/02/21 PHS Permit No.: 1774-121-1002 Date Expires: 04/02/21	Last Date: 03/02/21 100 Ring Ave Miami, GA 30303 4042046677 LHM@hhs.gov Passport #: 1228254 United States	
1. Applicant Name, Title, Company Name: LHM	2. Authorized Person (Name, Address, Contact Information) (if different than above) Name: LHM	
3. Identification of Dog Date of Birth: 4/12/2017 Breed: Mixed Breed 2 Sex: Female Neutered Rights Registration: 11/02/2017 Title: B	Age: 3 months up to 6 months Color: Brown and white Microchip #: 123412341234123 Tattoo: B	
4. Arrival Information Country of Origin: China Arrival Date: 01/02/21	U.S. Point of Entry: Hartsfield-Jackson Atlanta International Airport (ATL), GA Mode of Entry: Air	
5. Approved Confinement Location 100 Ring Ave Miami, GA 30303 4042046677 Dog may not be moved from the approved confinement location (except to go to a veterinary facility for medical treatment or vaccination) until the conditions of assurance in Item 6 below are met.		
6. Conditions of Assurance Confinement and initial rabies vaccination at destination within 10 days of entry into the United States, followed by confinement for 30 days. The above restriction is imposed under section 71.5 of Title 42, Code of Federal Regulations, and compliance is necessary before the dog is released from confinement. *Confinement in each state, include restriction of contact with owner or handler, agent, or building or other enclosure isolated from people and other animals (except for contact necessary for the dog's) if the dog is allowed out of said enclosure, inside the dog and leave it on a leash. *Importing TO BOSTON: Critical quarantine may be required for visiting regulations enacted under 42 U.S.C. § 264, Under 42 U.S.C. § 271, as authorized by 49 U.S.C. §§ 1069 & 1071. Individuals subject to quarantine regulations may be restricted to one year of 300 isolation - maximum fee of \$100,000. If the violation does not result in a death or \$200,000. If the violation results in a death, Violation by an organization may be restricted to one year of 300 isolation - maximum fee of \$100,000 per violation. If the violation does not result in a death, or \$500,000 per violation. If the violation results in a death.		
7. Issuing Public Health Officer  Clive M. Brown, MBS, MSW, MPH, OTRM (London) Chief, Quarantine and Border Health Services		

Additional Resources

- [High-Risk Dog Ban Federal Register Notice](#)
- [FAQs: Dogs from High-Risk Countries](#)
- [High-Risk Countries for Dog Rabies](#)
- [Bringing a Dog into the United States](#)



Contact the [CDC Quarantine Station](#) with jurisdiction.



Centers for Disease Control and Prevention
 National Center for Emerging and Zoonotic Infectious Diseases
 Atlanta, GA 30334

U.S. Customs and Border Protection should consult the CDC Quarantine Station with jurisdiction with any questions.
<http://www.uscbp.gov/partners/animalhealth/centralatl.html>

Air Carrier Responsibilities for Dogs Coming from High-Risk Countries for Dog Rabies

This guidance outlines the responsibilities and requirements for air carriers to screen dogs coming from high-risk countries for dog rabies arriving in the United States. Your vigilance will help protect from rabies the public's health and the health of your workers as well as the animals. Below is a summary of key points. Important details follow on next pages. This [new rule](#) starts on July 14, 2021.

Your responsibilities BEFORE accepting a shipment

- Know [list of high-risk countries](#) for dog rabies.
- Be familiar with [changes in the rules](#) and who can bring dogs with a [CDC Dog Import Permit](#).
- Understand dogs with a CDC Dog Import Permit can only arrive at JFK International Airport.
- Don't accept dogs that don't meet US entry requirements. Check the dogs and their importation documents.
Once an animal is onboarded to your aircraft, you're responsible for the animal's welfare.

What to do BEFORE boarding or loading

1. Look for where the dogs are coming from. Ask where they've been within the past 6 months.
2. If coming from any high-risk countries for dog rabies, deny boarding. DON'T accept these dogs as cargo or carry-ons. (Unless at JFK and they have a CDC Dog Import Permit)
3. If you allow them to board or load and arrive in the United States, see your responsibilities below.

Your responsibilities AFTER a shipment arrives

- Hold animals if US Customs and Border Protection (CBP) or CDC requires.
- Transport sick or injured animals to a veterinary facility.
- Package, refrigerate, and transport dead animals to a testing facility if required.

If animals are denied entry:

- Hold animals denied entry in a facility that meets USDA APHIS Animal Care Animal Welfare Act Standards.
- Pay for costs if an importer abandons any animals denied entry. The carrier is responsible for their return or destruction, including any associated costs.
- Return animals denied entry to the country of origin on the next available flight.
- Provide proof of return to CDC and CBP once the animals have been returned.

For more information, see job aid on [Air Carrier Responsibilities for Animal Importations](#).



Centers for Disease Control and Prevention
 National Center for Emerging and Zoonotic Infectious Diseases

Resources

Resources and Links

Federal Register Notice suspension announcement: www.cdc.gov/importation/bringing-an-animal-into-the-united-states/high-risk-dog-ban-frn.html

FAQs for temporary suspension: www.cdc.gov/importation/bringing-an-animal-into-the-united-states/faqs-about-high-risk-dog-ban.html

THEN and NOW: CDC Dog Importation Changes: www.cdc.gov/importation/bringing-an-animal-into-the-united-states/dog-importation-changes.html

List of high-risk countries for dog rabies: www.cdc.gov/importation/bringing-an-animal-into-the-united-states/high-risk.html

How to apply for a dog import permit (and list of approved POEs): www.cdc.gov/importation/bringing-an-animal-into-the-united-states/apply-dog-import-permit.html

Permit application instructions: www.cdc.gov/importation/bringing-an-animal-into-the-united-states/import-permit-application-instructions.html

What is a valid Rabies Vaccination Certificate: www.cdc.gov/importation/bringing-an-animal-into-the-united-states/vaccine-certificate.html

For more information on the temporary suspension, please contact the Zoonoses Team at CDCanimalimports@cdc.gov

For more information, contact CDC
1-800-CDC-INFO (232-4636)
TTY: 1-888-232-6348 www.cdc.gov

The findings and conclusions in this report are those of the authors and do not necessarily represent the official position of the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention.

