



IMPORTING A DOG INTO THE U.S. VIA WASHINGTON-DULLES

OVERVIEW

Pender Pet Retreat is the only CDC-approved Animal Care Facility (ACF) for the Washington-Dulles (IAD) Port of Entry (POE) for dogs entering the United States from high-risk Rabies countries or those who have been in any high-risk country during the previous 6 months. It is one of 6 POE's in the US where such dogs can enter. Others include ATL, JFK, LAX, MIA, and PHL.

Dogs entering the US from a high-risk Rabies country who do NOT need to enter through one of the 6 ACF's must meet the following requirements:

- Are healthy upon arrival, are at least 6 months of age, and have an ISO compliant microchip that was implanted prior to their rabies vaccination.
- Have a valid CDC Dog Import Form receipt (available starting July 15, 2024)
- Have a Certification of U.S.-issued Rabies Vaccination form completed by a USDA-accredited veterinarian and endorsed by the USDA prior to leaving the U.S.
- Dogs who meet these requirements can enter through any port, BUT the correct arrival date and port of entry must be listed on the accompanying CDC Dog Import Form receipt

ALL dogs who do NOT meet these requirements MUST enter through a CDC-approved Animal Care Facility and your reservation type will fall into one of two categories depending on your dog(s) available Rabies Titer Test status. The requirements for reservations for these two categories are outlined in this document.

RECOMMENDATIONS

As pet travel and animal care experts, we make the following strong recommendations to you, the pet parent or agent:

- All pet owners traveling with or shipping their dogs to the U.S. are recommended to use the Dog Bot guide found at [cdc.gov/DogTravel](https://www.cdc.gov/DogTravel) to learn more about the various U.S. Dog Import requirements starting August 1st, 2024.
- Any traveling dogs should also be vaccinated for Distemper, Bordetella, and Canine Influenza, prior to travel. If you are unable to do so, our USDA-accredited veterinarian can provide these services upon arrival.
- If you know you will be traveling internationally, it is strongly recommended to have your dog(s) revaccinated against rabies prior to departure by a USDA-accredited veterinarian and have the U.S.-issued Rabies Vaccination form endorsed by the USDA. This is the best way to ensure an easier re-entry into the U.S. upon your return.



ANIMAL CARE FACILITY RESERVATIONS

RESERVATION WITH VALID RABIES TITER

A dog who was vaccinated outside of the U.S., but who has a valid Rabies Titer, must enter the U.S. through a port with a CDC-approved ACF and be examined by a USDA-accredited veterinarian and receive an updated Rabies vaccination, but is not necessarily required to quarantine for a full 28 days.

Requirements for a reservation for a dog who has a valid Rabies Titer:

- Rabies Titer test results from a CDC approved lab and above minimum levels
- Rabies Titer must have been drawn at least 30 days after initial Rabies vaccine and 28 days prior to arrival in the U.S. Titers are valid for the life of the pet as long as there is no lapse in vaccinations.
- Certification of Foreign Rabies Vaccination and Microchip form
- CDC Dog Import Form receipt
- Pictures of your pet's teeth and body
- Proof of current Distemper and Bordetella vaccination

IMPORTANT:

CDC RABIES
VERIFICATION FORM
REQUIRED FOR ALL
ENTRIES!

CDC no longer accepts
alternate forms of
proof of rabies
vaccination.

RESERVATION WITHOUT RABIES TITER

A dog who is arriving to the U.S from a high-risk Rabies country and that was vaccinated outside of the U.S. and who does not have a valid Rabies Titer, is subject to a 28-day quarantine at a CDC Animal Care Facility.

Requirements for a 28-day quarantine reservation:

- Certification of Foreign Rabies Vaccination and Microchip form
- CDC Dog Import Form receipt
- Pictures of your pet's teeth and body
- Proof of current Distemper, Bordetella, and Canine Influenza vaccination, as well as a negative fecal intestinal parasite test within 12 months (if not current, the USDA veterinarian can update these for you upon arrival at our facility, see additional services for pricing).

IMPORTANT: FOR EITHER RESERVATION TYPE, IF YOUR PET DISPLAYS SIGNS OF ILLNESS AT ANY TIME, THE CDC MAY REQUIRE ADDITIONAL TESTING, TREATMENT, AND QUARANTINE AT THE IMPORTER'S EXPENSE.

PAYMENT IS DUE IN FULL TO RECEIVE RESERVATION CONFIRMATION

**TO SUBMIT A RESERVATION REQUEST PLEASE GO TO:
WWW.PENDERPETRETREAT.COM/CDC-RESERVATIONS**



ANIMAL CARE FACILITY RESERVATIONS

FEES FOR RESERVATIONS

WITH RABIES TITER = \$908

Included with a reservation for a dog who has a valid Rabies Titer:

- Transport from IAD to Pender Pet Retreat
- Holding Care & Accommodation
- USDA-Accredited Veterinary Exam
- Rabies Vaccination Booster
- All Regulatory Compliance Requirements
- Customs Clearance (up to 2 pets on same AWB)

WITHOUT RABIES TITER = \$3,950

Included with a reservation for a dog who does NOT have a valid Rabies Titer:

- Transport from IAD to Pender Pet Retreat
- Holding Care & Accommodation
- USDA-Accredited Veterinary Intake & Release Exam
- Rabies Vaccination Booster
- Internal and External Parasite Treatment
- 28-day Quarantine
- All Regulatory Compliance Requirements
- Customs Clearance (up to 2 pets on same AWB)

ADDITIONAL CHARGES

- General services:
 - Airline terminal or post-entry fees = \$100 - \$475 (varies by airline and method of travel)
 - Crates taller than 32" = \$75
 - Weekend & After-hours Arrival (landing outside of 7:00am-4:00pm EST) = \$350
 - Additional quarantine = \$125 / dog / night
 - USDA Endorsed Certification of U.S. Rabies Vaccination = \$200
 - African Swine Fever Commercial Imports = \$150 / dog
- If your pet is not up-to-date on the following required vaccines for quarantine, ADD:
 - Distemper Vaccine = \$33
 - Bordetella Vaccine = \$33
 - Canine Influenza Vaccine = \$50
 - Intestinal Parasite Test = \$60

EXPEDITED BOOKING

WITHIN 5 BUSINESS DAYS = ADD \$250

WITHIN 48 HOURS = ADD \$500

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IMPORTING A DOG INTO THE U.S. VIA WASHINGTON-DULLES

U.S. ENTRY REQUIREMENT DETAILS

ALL dogs entering the U.S. must:

- Be healthy upon arrival
- At least 6 months of age
- Have an ISO-compliant microchip implanted
- Be accompanied by a CDC Dog Import Form receipt **AND** required vaccination or veterinary documentation (detailed below)

U.S.-vaccinated dogs must:

- Meet the same requirements outlined for ALL dogs (above)
- Be accompanied by either a USDA-endorsed export health certificate with microchip and rabies vaccine **OR** a Certification of U.S.-Issued Rabies Vaccination form (available only to USDA-accredited veterinarians)
- Enter through any land, sea, or airport. Note: The port of entry **MUST** be designated on the Import Form receipt.

Bringing Your Foreign-vaccinated Dog into the US from a Rabies-free or Low-Risk Country:

- Meet the same requirements outlined for ALL dogs (above)
- Be accompanied by one of the following:
 - *Certification of dog arriving from DMRVV-free or Low-Risk country form* (available at [cdc.gov/DogTravel](https://www.cdc.gov/DogTravel)) + veterinary records for the prior 6 months
 - Foreign-endorsed export health certificate + veterinary records for the prior 6 months
 - USDA-endorsed export health certificate to the DMRVV-free or low-risk country of departure
 - *Certification of Foreign Rabies Vaccination and Microchip form* (available at [cdc.gov/DogTravel](https://www.cdc.gov/DogTravel)) + rabies titer or veterinary records
- Enter through any land, sea, or airport. Note: The port of entry **MUST** be designated on the Import Form receipt.

Bringing Your Foreign-vaccinated Dog into the US from a High-Risk Country:

- Meet the same requirements outlined for ALL dogs (above)
- Be accompanied by a *Certification of Foreign Rabies Vaccination and Microchip form* (available at [cdc.gov/DogTravel](https://www.cdc.gov/DogTravel))
- Have a reservation at a CDC-approved Animal Care Facility for either exam and revaccination or 28-day quarantine (based on titer status)

*This is a VERY brief overview. For more information, please go to: <https://www.cdc.gov/DogTravel>

Microchip requirement:

The microchip must be International Standards Organization (ISO)-complaint. The microchip must have been implanted on or before the date the current rabies vaccine was administered. Rabies vaccines received prior to the implantation of a microchip are considered invalid.

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U.S. ENTRY REQUIREMENT DETAILS

Rabies vaccination requirements:

Dogs must receive their initial rabies vaccination on or after 12 weeks (84 days) of age or in accordance with manufacturer recommendations if licensed for use in older dogs (i.e., 16 weeks of age). Vaccines administered prior to 12 weeks of age will not be accepted, regardless of manufacturer product licensing. Vaccines will be considered valid for a period of 1 or 3 years depending on manufacturer guidelines. Booster vaccines are considered immediately valid in dogs over 15 months of age provided the dog has received at least 1 previous rabies vaccine administered on or after 12 weeks of age and there has been no lapse in vaccine coverage. Booster vaccines must be administered according to recognized U.S. vaccine schedules and comply with manufacturer's instructions.

Serologic testing requirements:

Importers of foreign-vaccinated dogs from DRMVV high-risk countries must obtain serologic titer results; otherwise, the dog will be required to quarantine at a CDC-registered animal care facility (ACF) at the importer's expense. Importers of dogs which receive USDA-licensed rabies vaccines by a U.S.-veterinarian in the United States and maintain a current, valid U.S. rabies vaccination status do not have to submit titer results to be eligible for importation if they travel with a valid Certification of U.S.-issued Rabies Vaccination form completed by their U.S. veterinarian and certified by USDA prior to the dog's departure from the United States. Any lapses in U.S.-issued vaccination coverage while abroad will require that the dog be administered a rabies vaccine overseas prior to importation and that the importer follow requirements for importing foreign-vaccinated dogs. For example, if a dog has a 1-year U.S.-issued rabies vaccination certificate that expires on 2/1/25 a titer or quarantine will not be required if the dog receives a USDA-licensed rabies booster vaccine by a U.S.-veterinarian in the United States on or before 1/31/25.

Serologic titer testing period:

For foreign-vaccinated dogs receiving their primary (first) rabies vaccination, the titer must be drawn at least 30 days after vaccination. Drawing a titer too early will likely result in a failed test. A passing test result immediately after primary vaccination could indicate past unrecognized vaccination, past rabies exposure, or current rabies disease. For foreign-vaccinated dogs receiving a booster rabies vaccination, serum may be collected immediately following booster vaccination for rabies antibody detection as long as no lapse in vaccine coverage has occurred. Anamnestic (memory) immune response to rabies vaccine is expected to be robust within 5 days but can be earlier. Many dogs with a past history of adequate vaccination will still have detectable rabies antibody at the time of booster. Titers must be drawn during the time in which the dog is considered up to date with their rabies vaccination. If rabies vaccination has lapsed, they will require a booster and blood sample collection for serological testing at least 30 days after revaccination.

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U.S. ENTRY REQUIREMENT DETAILS

Serologic titer result validity:

Serologic titer results remain valid for the entire life of the dog as long as the dog's rabies vaccination coverage does not lapse. If a dog's rabies vaccine expires before the dog is re-vaccinated, CDC will require the dog have another titer completed to be eligible for entry into the United States. CDC defines a passing or adequate antibody titer as a titer that is ≥ 0.5 IU/mL. Dogs that fail to achieve a rabies neutralizing antibody titer of 0.5 IU/mL must be re-vaccinated and have their titer redrawn after re-vaccination. It is recommended to wait at least 14 days between revaccination and titer collection.

Serologic titer waiting period:

Foreign-vaccinated dogs are eligible for importation 28 days after the date of titer collection; however, if the owner does not have the titer results upon arrival, the dog must undergo a mandatory quarantine at a ACF for 28 days at the importer's expense, or until the importer submits sufficient proof of previous rabies vaccination through a prospective serologic monitoring (PSM) assessment conducted by a CDC-approved laboratory in the United States at the importer's expense, whichever occurs first.

Approved serologic tests:

Approved tests are those that detect neutralizing antibodies against rabies virus using live virus in vitro, i.e., Rabies Neutralizing Antibody Titer Test (RNATT): Rapid Fluorescent Focus Inhibition Test (RFFIT) or Fluorescent Antibody Virus Neutralization (FAVN). CDC may approve additional tests in the future that use live virus. ELISA and other testing methods that use inactivated virus or individual proteins are not acceptable.

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FREQUENTLY ASKED QUESTIONS

What type of shipments do we accept at IAD? Currently we are able to accept pets shipped as manifest cargo, excess baggage, or in-cabin.

Will the CDC be issuing any more dog import permits? The CDC will be issuing import permits up until July 31, 2024, but only for arrival dates on or before August 31, 2024.

What if I have a formal entry? ALL dogs must still be issued an air waybill (AWB) number.

Are there waivers for service animals? All service dogs must meet the same entry requirements as non-service animals.

How long will my dog have to be at an Animal Care Facility? For dogs who require entry via an ACF, please plan on a minimum of 24-36 hours before they meet entry requirements and are ready to be picked up directly from our facility.

What if the veterinarian who issued my U.S.-issued rabies certificate is not USDA-accredited? Rabies vaccine certificates from non-accredited veterinarians will not be accepted. We can make recommendations if this applies to you.

What about cats? While there are no vaccination requirements for cats entering the U.S., ALL cats must arrive healthy. Any cats that arrive ill will be required to undergo quarantine and testing to rule out zoonotic disease of public health concern at the importer's expense.

What if my arrival details change from my original CDC Dog Import Form? ALL dogs must be accompanied by a CDC Dog Import Form receipt with accurate arrival details, including airline, date of arrival, and port of entry. If any of these details change, the form must be amended via the CDC website.

What is the CDC Dog Import Form for? The CDC Dog Import Form receipt must be presented to the airline before boarding and to the U.S. government officials upon arrival at the indicated port of entry.

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