

## Waiver Extension Application Guidance

Please note that for purposes of the CDC dog importation requirements, "air carriers" includes ALL aircraft operators, both private and commercial. Dogs, and other animals, are considered cargo even if they travel in the main cabin and are personal pets of passengers.

The Air Waybill (AWB) waiver extension application is outlined in the document "Technical Instruction for air carriers that are unable to create air waybills."

The following guidance has been developed based on discussion with CDC. Requirements, and the associated guidance, are subject to change. The statements in bold are directly from the "Technical Instruction for air carriers that are unable to create air waybills." Suggested or example responses are in plain text. Explanatory notes are in italics and should be removed. These responses have been reviewed by CDC and approved for General Aviation.

### **The carrier must submit to CDC the following by May 1, 2025:**

1. **Written standard operating procedure (SOP) and step-by-step instructions for air carrier staff to follow should the dog not meet US entry requirements. The SOP and instructions must describe:**
  - a. **How the air carrier will ensure that importers present the documentation air carriers are required to confirm *prior* to boarding a dog (this could include a checklist or employee training slides).**

We will apply the below CDC Process Map for Airlines that has been modified for General Aviation operators. *(Include the CDC Process Map for GA which is on a separate PDF document)*
  - b. **If a dog is ill, injured, abandoned, denied entry, or placed on-hold pending an admissibility determination, how the air carrier will ensure the dog is returned to its country of departure or brought into compliance with CDC's entry requirements.**

We will contact the appropriate CDC Port Health Station and work with CDC to determine the necessary steps to either bring the dog into compliance with CDC's entry requirements or return it to its country of departure. We are committed to ensuring the proper care and treatment of any animals we transport.

c. **How the air carrier will ensure care for any ill, injured, or abandoned dog placed on-hold or denied admission and pending return.**

We will contact the appropriate CDC Port Health Station and work with CDC to identify a CDC approved veterinary treatment facility or boarding kennel as necessary. We are committed to ensuring the proper care and treatment of any animals we transport.

d. **Transportation instructions for air carrier staff and the location of a CDC-registered Animal Care Facility (ACF) (or other suitable alternative, such as a local kennel or veterinary hospital) that will house and provide care for the dog until CDC's entry requirements are met or it is returned to the country of departure.**

i. **Local housing facilities (ACF, kennels, veterinary clinics) must be provided for each port of entry an air carrier will transport dogs into.**

As a General Aviation operator, we may utilize any port of entry in the U.S. We will contact the appropriate CDC Port Health Station and work with CDC to identify a CDC approved veterinary treatment facility or boarding kennel as necessary. We are committed to ensuring the proper care and treatment of any animals we transport.

e. **How payment will be made by the air carrier to the facility providing care for the dog until the determination of admissibility is complete or it is returned to its country of departure. Please include instructions for local air carrier employees to follow to submit payment requests to the air carrier's headquarters.**

We understand and accept the responsibility to ensure payment for any necessary care for dogs that we transport. The pilot-in-command (PIC) will provide payment with his company credit card or another accepted means of payment unless the dog owner/importer chooses to make such payment directly at the time care is provided.

i. **Air carriers may seek reimbursement from the importer but may be required to pay for veterinary services, boarding, or return of the dog to the country of departure if an importer fails to provide payment or if the importer abandons the dog.**

ii. **If an importer refuses to pay for any services required by CDC, the dog will be considered abandoned per 42 CFR 71.51 and the**



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**airline will be required to assume responsibility, including financial responsibility, for the dog.**

**The SOP and instructions should be on company letterhead and contain contact information for regional air carrier management with oversight responsibility over the cargo and passenger process.**

**Failure to submit these documents and have an application approved by May 1, 2025 will result in the waiver expiring and the air carrier no longer being able to transport dogs into the United States without an AWB.**