

Waiver Extension

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.

When an aircraft operator receives a provisional waiver from the requirement to produce an Air Waybill (AWB), valid until May 1, 2025, they will also receive a PDF document, “Technical Instruction for air carriers that are unable to create air waybills.” This document details the application process to extend the waiver until November 1, 2025.

EVERY aircraft operator that receives a provisional waiver should apply to extend their waiver as soon as possible. There are several reasons why:

1. If their provisional waiver expires without being extended, that aircraft operator can no longer transport dogs to the U.S. without an AWB.
2. An extended waiver is valid until November 1, 2025. Delaying the extension application WILL NOT extend the expiration date of the extended waiver.
3. Waiver extension requests are processed in the order they are received. There is no consideration given for applicants whose waivers have expired or are set to expire.
4. Aircraft operators can only receive a single provisional waiver. If they receive one and let it expire, they will NOT be granted another provisional waiver. At that point they have two options to transport dogs to the U.S., a) complete the waiver extension application and wait for it to be approved, or b) produce an AWB.

Cautionary Note: Once an aircraft operator demonstrates the ability to produce an AWB, they become less likely to receive a waiver.