

## **Bringing a Dog into the U.S.**

Please note that for purposes of the CDC dog importation requirements, "air carriers" includes ALL aircraft operators, both private and commercial. This has been confirmed directly by CDC.

For the aircraft operator:

1. Unless the aircraft operator already has the ability to create an Air Waybill (AWB), which is unlikely, the aircraft operator should request a waiver from CDC by email at: [cdcanimalimports@cdc.gov](mailto:cdcanimalimports@cdc.gov). Instructions in a separate document.
2. Industry has been assured by CDC that AWB will not be required for General Aviation (GA) operators. However, GA operators need to hold a valid waiver to bring dogs into the U.S. CDC will provide additional guidance in the future regarding a GA alternative to the AWB requirement.

For the owner:

1. Dogs must be at least 6 months old
2. Dogs must be healthy
3. Dogs must have a microchip
4. Complete the CDC Dog Import Form (one for each dog) available via this link: [CDC Dog Import Form](#)
5. Determine if the dog has been in a high-risk country for dog rabies within the 6 months prior to entry into the U.S. List of high-risk countries available via this link: [List of High-risk Countries](#)
6. If the dog HAS NOT been in a high-risk country within the previous 6 months, no other paperwork is required from the owner. Such dogs can arrive at any U.S. airport with CBP available.
7. If the dog HAS been in a high-risk country, the dog MUST be vaccinated against rabies. The document requirements vary depending on whether the dog was vaccinated in the U.S. or in a foreign country. Details of the document requirements for both U.S. and foreign vaccinations are available via this link: [Documents for Veterinarians to Complete for Dogs Being Imported into the United States | Importation | CDC](#)

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8. Dogs vaccinated in the U.S. and accompanied by all required paperwork can arrive at any U.S. airport with CBP available.
  9. If the dog was vaccinated at a foreign location, the dog must have an appointment at a CDC-registered animal care facility ([CDC-registered Animal Care Facilities | Importation | CDC](#)). They must arrive at the airport associated with that facility. They also require a lab test result (described in the information in the link: [Documents for Veterinarians to Complete for Dogs Being Imported into the United States | Importation | CDC](#)). If they do not have the appropriate lab test result, or if the test result is not acceptable, their reservation must include a 28-day quarantine.

Information About the [CDC Dog Import Form](#)

1. If the dog has been in a high-risk country, the form is only valid for a single entry.
2. If the dog has only been in low-risk or rabies free countries, the form is valid for multiple entries within a 6-month period. However, all the entries must be from the same country. For example, a dog that travels to and from Canada can use the same [CDC Dog Import Form](#) multiple times over six months. However, if the same dog traveled to the UK and back to the U.S. in that period, a new [CDC Dog Import Form](#) would be required for the entry from the U.K.