Using the Veterinary Export Health Certification System (VEHCS)

Last Modified:

The Veterinary Export Health Certification System (VEHCS) is APHIS’ secure online system for creating, issuing (complete, sign, date), submitting, and endorsing health certificates for international export of live animals and germplasm from the United States to other countries. We've compiled a number of resources to help you successfully use the system.

Veterinary Export Health Certification System

Log in to VEHCS

Ready to go? Sign in to start using VEHCS today.

VEHCS User Guides

Step-by-Step Guide to Using VEHCS

(PDF, 9.04 MB)

Learn about the different color-coded VEHCS banners, different types of VEHCS health certificates and how to complete them, and recent updates to VEHCS.

Quick Reference Guides for VEHCS Users

These short guides cover everything from creating and managing a VEHCS account to adding funds to your pre-purchase account and printing a completed health certificate.

Completing a Health Certificate

Watch this video to learn how to correctly complete a health certificate in VEHCS.

About VEHCS

APHIS accepts electronic signatures from USDA-accredited veterinarians for issuance of all live animal export health certificates, regardless of country of destination. To learn more, view this World Trade Organization (WTO) notification (123.1 KB) and check out the resources below.

The International Export of Animals

This video explains the advantages to using VEHCS and the role of the accredited veterinarian in issuing health certificates.

VEHCS: The Best Way to Obtain USDA Endorsement for Live Animals and Germplasm

(PDF, 1.83 MB)

This flyer highlights why VEHCS is the best way to obtain USDA endorsement for live animals and germplasm.

VEHCS Training for Accredited Veterinarians

Accredited veterinarians can take this online training to learn more about VEHCS.

Need Help?

VEHCS Help

For user ID, password, and technical support related to login:

Login.gov Help Center

For VEHCS/PCIT technical support:

VEHCS/PCIT Help Desk

Email: pcithelpdesk@usda.gov

Health Certificate Endorsement

APHIS Veterinary Export Trade Services (VETS) offers commodity-specific expertise for exporting animals. Use the dropdown to contact us with questions about endorsing export health certificates. For quickest help, see **tips for accredited veterinarians.**

- Select a Commodity - ▼

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Using the Veterinary Export Health Certification System (VEHCS) Contacts

Important Reminder for Pet Dog Certificates

Check whether the dog will be returning to the United States and verify **all** import requirements. There may be requirements that need to be met before leaving the United States in order to return.

The U.S. Centers for Disease Control and Prevention (CDC) is the primary authority for dog imports. For requirements, visit the CDC website.

CDC requires all U.S.-vaccinated dogs that have traveled to a high-risk country for rabies within the past 6 months to have a "Certification of U.S.-Issued Rabies Vaccination" form. This form must be submitted by a USDA-accredited veterinarian and endorsed **before** the dog leaves the United States.

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