



95/890

18 April 2000

QUARANTINE REQUIREMENTS FOR THE IMPORTATION OF DISABILITY ASSISTANCE DOGS FROM APPROVED RABIES-FREE COUNTRIES

1. These conditions apply to the importation of **disability assistance dogs** from certain countries and territories recognised by the Australian Government as countries or territories free from rabies and certain island countries also recognised as free from rabies. Dogs imported into Australia other than from New Zealand must undergo a period of post-arrival quarantine, normally in a government quarantine station. These conditions are designed to allow the performance of quarantine as **quarantine surveillance** outside a government quarantine station so that the disabled person may have the use of his/her assistance dog during that period.

A list of **Approved Rabies-Free Countries And Territories** and a list of **Approved Rabies Free Island Countries and Territories** is at **Appendix 1**. The lists are subject to change. Importers should check with the *Principal Veterinary Officer (Quarantine)* [PVO(Q)] at the time of applying for an Import Permit.

2. These conditions form part of the **Permit to Import**. Applications to import must be on the prescribed **Application Form**. Application Forms are available from the PVO(Q) in the State of import. Importation must be through Sydney, Melbourne or Perth. The addresses of the PVO(Q) in these places is at **Appendix 2**. The applicant must nominate, in the third box of Section 2 of the Application Form, the address of the premises at which the dog will be kept while under quarantine surveillance (the **Nominated Address**).

Copies of the following documents must be appended to the Application Form:

- . a declaration (at **Appendix 3**) signed by the disabled person (or, if the person is unable to sign, his or her carer) that
 - the dog has been in his/her service for at least 6 months
 - he/she agrees to comply with the conditions specified in the declaration
 - the premises at the Nominated Address is suitable for the purpose
- . supporting documentation in relation to the disability of the disabled person
- . documentation, relating to the dog's training, from:
 - a member school of the International Federation of Guide Dog Schools, **or**
 - a member school of Assistance Dogs International, **or**
 - another organisation recognised by the national government of the country in which the dog was trained as a school for training assistance dogs for disabled people, which records the permanent identification of the dog and attests that the dog has graduated from that school

A Permit to Import will not be issued until these documents have been received and found to be in order.

Note: Testing for canine brucellosis, canine ehrlichiosis and leptospirosis is required within 45 days prior to export (sections 8 to 10). We strongly recommend that

- . the dog be tested for these diseases before the application is submitted, to check that the dog is likely to qualify for export when tested later
 - . the dog not be mated following this preliminary testing
 - . treatment for ticks be commenced at this time, to reduce the risk of the dog becoming infected with these diseases before it is tested again.
3. To facilitate import clearance with minimal delay, a copy of the Permit to Import, copies of laboratory reports of testing for brucellosis, ehrlichiosis and leptospirosis, leptospirosis vaccination certificate (if required) and veterinary certificates of treatment for ticks should be submitted to the PVO(Q) at least **five (5) days** prior to travel. **If this is not done, and/or the documents are unsatisfactory, the dog may be refused entry, or ordered into quarantine at an Animal Quarantine Station, on arrival.**

Originals of the laboratory reports, leptospirosis vaccination certificate (if required) and veterinary certificates of tick treatments must be attached to Veterinary Certificates A & B to be brought by the disabled person, with his/her assistance dog, to Australia.

4. The disabled person must accompany the dog to Australia and must carry, for presentation to a quarantine officer at the port of import:
- . the complete Permit to Import
 - . the original signed Disabled Person's Declaration and a second copy
 - . **Veterinary Certificate A** signed by the registered or licensed veterinarian or Official Veterinarian who has performed the sampling for testing, treatments and examinations specified in these conditions, and
 - . **Veterinary Certificate B** signed by an Official Veterinarian of the exporting country.

[An Official Veterinarian is a veterinarian authorised by the Veterinary Administration of the exporting country or territory to perform animal health and/or public health inspections of commodities and, when appropriate, perform certification in conformity with the provisions of Chapter 1.3.2. of the OIE International Animal Health Code. In the case of dogs imported from the USA, Veterinary Certificate B must be signed by an USDA/APHIS Veterinarian.]

The Veterinary certificates A and B (as included with these conditions) must be in English. The dog must be certified as having met the residency, disease testing, treatment and clinical health requirements specified in these conditions. The certification must also include the following information:

- . age or date of birth of the dog
- . the sex, breed, colour, coat type and markings, including distinguishing marks
- . identifying microchip number, type and implantation site
- . place of residency of the dog for the past six (6) months, and information about previous places of residency as specified
- . name and address of the exporter.

Each page of Veterinary Certificate A, the laboratory reports and vaccination certificates must be stamped with an Official Stamp of the Government of the exporting country and be endorsed by signature and date by the Official Veterinarian who completes Veterinary Certificate B.

[Corrections to entries made in the certificates will only be accepted in the following circumstances:

- . correction fluid must **not** be used, and
- . the original entry has been struck through and remains legible and the correction is written adjacent to the original (for example, Breed: ~~Fox-Terrier~~ Beagle), and
- . each correction has been signed by the Official Veterinarian.]

GENERAL CONDITIONS

5. Residency

- 5.1 The dog must have been continuously resident in the country or territory of export for at least six (6) months prior to export, and must not have been in quarantine or under quarantine restriction during the thirty (30) days immediately preceding export, except as provided for in 5.2.
- 5.2 Australian dogs may be eligible to return to Australia after less than six (6) months residency in the country of export provided the dog has resided continuously in the country since being imported directly from Australia, and it is identified by a microchip implanted prior to export of the dog from Australia.

Applicants seeking permission to return a dog under these conditions will be required to provide documentary evidence that the microchip was implanted before the dog left Australia.

6. Identification

The dog must be identifiable by a microchip that can be read by an Avid, Trovan, Destron or other ISO compatible reader.

SANITARY CONDITIONS

7. Country freedom from rabies

The country or territory of export must be recognised by the Australian Government as free from rabies and listed as an *Approved Rabies-Free Country or Territory* for the purpose of direct importation of dogs and cats.

[Importers or certifying Official Veterinarians should check with the *Principal Veterinary Officer (Quarantine)* to confirm the approval status of the country or territory of export. The Approved Rabies-Free category is

usually only applied to a country where the Veterinary Administration can demonstrate a long history of rabies freedom, stringent import controls on carnivores, geographic isolation from countries where rabies occurs, transport routes for dogs and cats to Australia that do not require trans-shipment in a country where rabies occurs, and effective procedures to control unauthorised entry - whether intentional or accidental - of dogs and cats or other recognised vectors of rabies.]

At the time of export the country or territory of export must be certified as remaining officially free from rabies, ie:

- . rabies is compulsorily notifiable in the country
- . an effective system of disease surveillance is in place
- . all regulatory measures for the prevention and control of rabies have been implemented including effective importation procedures
- . no case of indigenously acquired rabies infection has been confirmed in man or any terrestrial animal species during the past two years, and
- . no imported case in carnivora has been confirmed outside a quarantine station for the past six months.

8. Vaccinations

The dog must have been vaccinated against distemper, infectious hepatitis, canine parvovirus, and parainfluenza at least fourteen (14) days and not more than twelve (12) months prior to export.

The vaccination certificate/s, or copies endorsed by an Official Veterinarian, for these vaccinations must be attached to the Veterinary Certificate B.

9. Brucellosis

9.1 The dog must be tested for *Brucella canis* infection by a serum agglutination test (the use of any other test requires prior written permission from AQIS) on a sample collected within forty five (45) days prior to export, with negative results (negative is less than 50% agglutination at a serum dilution of 1:100).

9.2 The laboratory report of the test, or a copy endorsed by an Official Veterinarian, must be attached to Veterinary Certificate B.

9.3 In the time period between collection of the sample for the test and arrival of the dog in Australia, the dog must not be naturally mated and, in the case of a bitch, must not be artificially inseminated.

10. Ehrlichiosis

10.1 The dog must be tested for *Ehrlichia canis* infection, by the indirect fluorescent antibody test (the use of any other test requires prior written permission from AQIS) at a serum dilution of 1:20, on a sample collected within forty five (45) days prior to export, with negative results.

10.2 The laboratory report of the test, or a copy endorsed by an Official Veterinarian, must be attached to Veterinary Certificate B.

10.3 Within 24 hours following collection of blood for the test, the dog must receive treatment with a parasiticide effective against ticks. This must be re-applied at the minimum time intervals recommended by the manufacturer for the control of ticks until shipment. Treatment should be timed to avoid adverse drug reactions due to any other treatment the dog is being given.

11. Leptospirosis

11.1 The dog must be tested for *Leptospira interrogans* serovar canicola infection by serum agglutination test, by EITHER of the following regimens within forty five (45) days prior to export:

a) a single test with a negative result (less than 50% agglutination at a serum dilution of 1:100)

OR

b) in the case of vaccinated dogs only, two tests on samples collected no less than fourteen (14) days apart, each with a titre of not more than 1:400, and the second sample with a titre no higher than the first.

11.2 The vaccination certificate, when applicable, and the laboratory report, or a copy endorsed by an Official Veterinarian, must be attached to Veterinary Certificate B.

12. *Babesia canis*

This clause applies to dogs which have spent part of their lives in a country of Africa.

Within fourteen (14) days prior to export the dog must be treated with imidocarb dipropionate (Forray-65, by Hoechst) or (Imizol by Coopers) at a rate of 7.5mg per kg bodyweight by subcutaneous injection. Treatment should be timed to avoid adverse drug reactions due to any other treatment the dog is being given.

13. Internal parasites

Within fourteen (14) days prior to export the dog must be treated with approved anthelmintics effective against nematodes and cestodes. The active ingredient/s and dose rate must be recorded on Veterinary Certificate A. Treatment should be timed to avoid adverse drug reactions due to any other treatment the dog is being given.

14. External parasites

Within fourteen (14) days prior to export the dog must be treated with an approved broad-spectrum parasiticide effective against ticks, mites and fleas. The active ingredient/s and dose rate must be recorded on Veterinary Certificate A. Treatment should be timed to avoid adverse drug reactions due to any other treatment the dog is being given.

15. Pre-export inspection

Within 72 hours prior to export the dog must be examined by a registered veterinarian or an Official Veterinarian and found to be free from clinical signs of infectious or contagious disease, and external parasites, and to be fit to travel.

16. Laboratory testing

All immunological tests are to be carried out by official diagnostic laboratories approved by the competent authority of the exporting country. An approved laboratory need not be situated in the country of export, ie the blood/serum samples may be sent to another country for testing. Permits to export and import the samples may need to be obtained from the relevant authorities.

TRANSPORT

17. In the case of air travel the dog must be transported in a manner acceptable to the airline and to the government of the exporting country. The dog should be normally transported as cargo in a container that complies with the standards specified in the International Air Transport Association (IATA) Live Animals Regulations. If acceptable to the airline, the dog may be transported in the passenger cabin with the disabled person importing it.

18. If being consigned by sea, the Master of the vessel and the Port Authority must certify that, as far as can be determined, the dog had no contact with other animals at each port of call.

19. During transport to Australia the dog must be transported to the port of export only through countries and parts of the territory of countries to which these conditions apply or that are rabies free. It must not be trans-shipped (change of aircraft or vessel) other than in a rabies free country or territory or in a country or territory approved in Appendix I of these conditions. Trans-shipment will require the approval of the relevant authority in the country of trans-shipment as well as the prior approval of the PVO(Q).

20. The PVO(Q) must be notified, at least 72 hours prior to departure, of the scheduled date, time and place of arrival of the dog, the flight number/ship number and, in the case of air travel, whether the dog will be travelling as cargo or in the passenger cabin, so that appropriate arrangements for clearance can be made to avoid undue delay.

POST ARRIVAL QUARANTINE

21. Each dog imported under these conditions will, after arrival, be required to serve thirty (30) days (Approved Rabies Free Countries and Territories) or sixty (60) days (Approved Rabies Free Island Countries and territories) quarantine in an approved animal quarantine station or, at the discretion of the PVO(Q), will be released from quarantine under quarantine surveillance for the same period. The conditions of release under quarantine surveillance are detailed in the attached Disabled Person's Declaration (Appendix 3).

Dogs validly returning to Australia with less than six (6) months residency in the country of export must also serve at least thirty (30) days in quarantine or under quarantine surveillance on arrival.

22. On arrival of the disabled person and his/her disability assistance dog in Australia a Quarantine Veterinary Officer (QVO) shall check the accompanying documentation and examine the dog. If the documentation is unsatisfactory and/or if the QVO considers the dog to be showing signs of disease or infestation with external parasites, the QVO may require the dog to be treated, or may order it into quarantine at an Animal Quarantine Station, or may require that it be exported, at the importer's expense.
23. If the documentation is satisfactory and the dog passes the examination the QVO may endorse the Disabled Person's Declaration and may release the dog under quarantine surveillance pursuant to sub-regulation 36 (2) of the Quarantine (Animals) Regulations. The QVO shall retain the signed disabled person's declaration but will provide a copy to the disabled person.
24. During quarantine or while under quarantine surveillance the dog may be subjected to any additional testing or treatment, as specified by AQIS, at the importer's expense.
25. At the end of the period of quarantine or quarantine surveillance the dog will be released from quarantine control and compliance with the conditions of quarantine surveillance will no longer be required.

SARAH KAHN
Assistant Director
Animal Quarantine Policy Branch

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VETERINARY CERTIFICATE A (Disability Assistance Dog)

VETERINARY CERTIFICATE A. PAGE 1 OF 5

Exporting country:.....

Import Permit number: (original permit to import or an authorised facsimile copy must be presented with this certificate on arrival of the dog in Australia)

I. IDENTIFICATION OF THE ANIMAL

Name of animal

Age or date of birth:

Sex: (please tick) Male Female
 Neutered male Neutered female

Breed:

Colour:

Coat type and marking / Distinguishing marks:
.....
.....

Microchip number:

Microchip scanner type: (please tick) AVID DESTRON TROVAN
 OTHER ISO COMPATIBLE.....

Microchip implantation site:

Endorsement by Official Veterinarian in accordance with Veterinary Certificate B		Official Government Stamp
..... Signature of Official Veterinarian Date	

II. ORIGIN OF THE ANIMAL

Country of residence during past 6 months:.....

Name and address of the exporter:

.....
.....

after due enquiry and examination of documents, I hereby certify that:

the dog identified in this certificate has been continuously resident in

..... (country or territory of export) since birth, or since being imported directly from Australia on.....(date), or for a minimum period of six (6) months immediately prior to the date of this certificate, and has not been in quarantine or under quarantine restriction during the thirty (30) days immediately preceding this date;

III. DESTINATION OF THE ANIMAL

Nominated address specified on the Permit to Import:

.....
.....

Mode of transport: (please tick) Air Sea

Identification of aircraft / vessel:

Contact telephone number:

IV. SANITARY INFORMATION

I,, the undersigned veterinarian, being
(Name In BLOCK LETTERS)

a ~~+~~registered / ~~+~~official veterinarian of, certify in
(~~+~~ strike out whichever does not apply) (country of export)

respect of the dog described above that :

Endorsement by Official Veterinarian in accordance with Veterinary Certificate B		Official Government Stamp
..... Signature of Official Veterinarian Date	

1. Vaccinations

The dog has been vaccinated against distemper, infectious hepatitis, canine parvovirus and parainfluenza at least 14 days and not more than 12 months prior to export. The vaccination certificate (or a copy endorsed by an Official Veterinarian) certifying to the most recent vaccination is attached;

Date of Vaccinations: distemper:
infectious hepatitis:
canine parvovirus:
parainfluenza:
leptospirosis:

Certificate(s) of vaccination have been attached to Veterinary Certificate B. (please tick)

2. Brucellosis

The dog was tested for canine brucellosis (*Brucella canis* infection) by a serum agglutination test, on a sample collected within 45 days prior to export, with negative result (negative is less than 50% agglutination at a serum dilution of 1:100)

Date of sample collection:

and, after due enquiry, I believe the dog, male or female, has not been naturally mated and, in the case of a bitch, has not been artificially inseminated since the date of sample collection.

Laboratory report of *Brucella canis* test result (or a copy endorsed by an Official Veterinarian) has been attached to Veterinary Certificate B. (please tick)

3. Ehrlichiosis

The dog was tested for canine tropical pancytopenia (*Ehrlichia canis* infection) by the indirect fluorescent antibody test at a serum dilution of 1:20, on a sample collected within 45 days prior to export, with negative results.

Date of sample collection:

Laboratory report of *Ehrlichia canis* test result (or a copy endorsed by an Official Veterinarian) has been attached to Veterinary Certificate B. (please tick)

Endorsement by Official Veterinarian in accordance with Veterinary Certificate B		Official Government Stamp
..... Signature of Official Veterinarian Date	

Within 24 hours following blood collection for testing for *Ehrlichia canis* infection, the dog was treated with a long acting parasiticide effective against ticks, and the treatment has been repeated, according to the manufacturer's instructions, as often as necessary to prevent re-infestation with ticks;

4. Leptospirosis

EITHER

*The dog was tested for *Leptospira interrogans* var. *canicola* infection by a serum agglutination test, on a sample collected within 45 days prior to export, with negative results (negative is less than 50% agglutination at a serum dilution of 1:100).

Date of sample collection:

OR

*The dog has been vaccinated against leptospirosis, and was tested for *Leptospira interrogans* var. *canicola* infection by serum agglutination tests, on samples collected twice at an interval of not less than 14 days within 45 days prior to export, with a titre of not more than 1:400 on each occasion and no increase in titre between the first and second tests.

Dates of sample collections:
.....

NOTE: * ONE OF THE ABOVE LEPTOSPIRA OPTIONS MUST BE STRUCK OUT

Laboratory report/s of the *Leptospira* test result/s (or a copy/copies endorsed by an Official Veterinarian) has been attached to Veterinary Certificate B. (please tick)

5. Approved laboratories

All immunological tests were conducted by official diagnostic laboratories approved by the competent authority of the exporting country.

6. *Babesia canis*

So far as I can determine, the dog has never lived in a country of Africa.

OR

The dog was treated on (date)..... (within 14 days prior to export) with imidocarb dipropionate at a dose rate of 7.5mg/kg by subcutaneous injection.

Endorsement by Official Veterinarian in accordance with Veterinary Certificate B		Official Government Stamp
..... Signature of Official Veterinarian Date	

7. Anthelmintics

Within 14 days prior to export the dog was treated with anthelmintics effective against nematodes and cestodes;

Treatment for nematodes:

Active ingredient/s:.....

Dose rate:..... Date of treatment:.....

Treatment for cestodes:

Active ingredient/s:.....

Dose rate:..... Date of treatment:.....

8. Ectoparasites

Within 14 days prior to export the dog was treated with parasiticides effective against ticks, mites and fleas;

Active ingredient/s:.....

Concentration:..... Dates of treatments:

9. Clinical examination

On (DATE) which is within 72 hours prior to the proposed date of export I have examined the dog and found it to be free from clinical signs of infectious or contagious disease and external parasites and to be fit to undertake the journey to Australia.

Signature of *Registered / *Official Veterinarian _____ Date _____

Address: _____

<p>Endorsement by Official Veterinarian in accordance with Veterinary Certificate B</p> <p>.....</p> <p>Signature of Official Veterinarian _____ Date _____</p>	<p>Official Government Stamp</p>
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VETERINARY CERTIFICATE B (Dog)

VETERINARY CERTIFICATE B (DOG) PAGE 1 OF 2

I,, being an Official Veterinarian
[name in block letters]

of the Government of,
(country of export)

with the Ministry/Department
(insert relevant Ministry/Department)

atairport / sea port,

1. I have no reason to doubt the truthfulness of the certification given in Veterinary Certificate A, and I am satisfied that the dog fully meets with the QUARANTINE REQUIREMENTS FOR THE IMPORTATION OF DISABILITY ASSISTANCE DOGS FROM APPROVED RABIES FREE COUNTRIES attached to Import Permit number:..... and is eligible for importation into Australia.

2. *The dog is being consigned to Australia by air in a container of no lesser standard than that required in the International Air Transport Association Live Animals Regulation Container Requirement 1.

OR

*The disabled person has permission from the airline for the dog to be carried in the passenger cabin.

OR

*The dog is being consigned to Australia by sea on (vessel name).

NOTE: * THE ABOVE CONSIGNMENT OPTIONS THAT DO NO APPLY MUST BE STRUCK OUT

3. I have sighted and endorsed all of the following documents which are attached: (please tick)

- | | |
|---|---|
| <input type="checkbox"/> Import Permit | <input type="checkbox"/> <i>Ehrlichia canis</i> laboratory report |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Veterinary Certificate A | <input type="checkbox"/> <i>Brucella canis</i> laboratory report |
| <input type="checkbox"/> distemper, infectious hepatitis, canine parvovirus and parainfluenza vaccination certificate/s | <input type="checkbox"/> Leptospirosis laboratory report |
| | <input type="checkbox"/> Leptospirosis vaccination certificate (where applicable) |

Note: ALL of the documents in the above list MUST be attached

APPENDIX 1

APPROVED RABIES-FREE COUNTRIES AND TERRITORIES

Bahrain, Cyprus, Fiji, Guam, Hawaii, the Republic of Ireland, Japan, Malta, New Caledonia, Norway, Singapore, Sweden, Taiwan, the United Kingdom

APPROVED RABIES FREE ISLAND COUNTRIES AND TERRITORIES

American Samoa, Cook Islands, Federated States of Micronesia, French Polynesia, Kiribati, Papua New Guinea, Solomon Islands, Kingdom of Tonga, Vanuatu, Wallis and Futuna, Western Samoa

APPENDIX 2

ADDRESSES OF PRINCIPAL VETERINARY OFFICERS (QUARANTINE)

For quarantine at Eastern Creek (NSW) apply to:

Principal Veterinary Officer (Quarantine)
Eastern Creek Animal Quarantine Station
Wallgrove Road
Eastern Creek, NSW 2766
Telephone: (02) 9832 4025
Facsimile: (02) 9832 1532

For quarantine at Byford (WA) apply to:

Principal Veterinary Officer (Quarantine)
Byford Animal Quarantine Station
PO Box 61
Byford, WA 6201
Telephone: (08) 9525 1763
Facsimile: (08) 9526 2199

For quarantine at Spotswood (Vic.) apply to:

Principal Veterinary Officer (Quarantine)
Spotswood Animal Quarantine Station
PO Box 300
Newport, Victoria 3015
Telephone: (03) 9391 1627
Facsimile: (03) 9391 0860

IMPORTATION OF DISABILITY ASSISTANCE DOGS INTO AUSTRALIA

DISABLED PERSON'S DECLARATION

I,.....(full name in BLOCK LETTERS)
being the person who uses the disability assistance dog identified below, or that person's carer, declare that:

- . the dog has been in my/ the disabled person's service for at least six months
- . I understand the conditions detailed below and I undertake to comply with these conditions, acknowledging that compliance is necessary for the post-arrival quarantine to be served as quarantine surveillance
- . the premises at the address shown below (the Nominated Address) is suitable for compliance with these conditions.

IDENTIFICATION OF THE DISABILITY ASSISTANCE DOG

Microchip identification number:

Name:

Breed:

Sex:

Date of Birth:

The Nominated Address:

Contact telephone number:

CONDITIONS OF QUARANTINE SURVEILLANCE

During the period covered by the Permit for release under quarantine surveillance:

- 1 No other dogs will be present at the Nominated Address, except any other disability assistance dog/s owned by the resident/s at the Nominated Address. I understand that any such dog/s is/are subject to the same quarantine conditions as the imported dog.
- 2 The disability assistance dog will remain leashed and under my direct control at all times when it is not confined at the Nominated Address.
- 3 I will promptly inform AQIS of any illness of the dog. If I seek veterinary treatment of the dog I will advise the attending veterinarian that the animal is under quarantine surveillance and that a veterinary report for AQIS is required.

I understand that the Quarantine Veterinary Officer may visit the Nominated Address at any time while the dog is under quarantine surveillance and, in signing this Declaration, I agree to co-operate in this matter with the Quarantine Veterinary Officer.

I understand that the dog will remain under quarantine surveillance for 30 days or 60 days as specified in the Permit to Import, or such greater period as the Quarantine Veterinary Officer may decide.

I also understand that the Quarantine Veterinary Officer may exercise powers under the Quarantine Act 1908 without my prior approval including requiring the dog to be inspected, treated, tested or removed to an animal quarantine station.

I agree to pay all quarantine fees associated with the quarantine surveillance period.

Signature of the Disabled Person/ Person's Carer

Date

Signature of Quarantine Veterinary Officer

Date

Name and address of officer

Official Stamp