# Approval to transit or tranship animals through an Australian airport

# *Biosecurity Act 2015*

All animals transiting or transhipping through Australian airports require **prior written approval** from the Department of Agriculture, Fisheries and Forestry regional office in the transiting/transhipping first point of entry.

Payment of all costs associated with the department’s assessment for a transit/transhipment permit and supervision of the animals at the airport are to be met by the applicant. The applicant or agent must be based in Australia with an Australian address and contact details (e.g. phone number). Under the [Biosecurity Charges Imposition (General) Act 2015](https://www.legislation.gov.au/Details/C2016C00676) fees are payable to the department for all services. Further detail on how the department applies fees may be found in the charging guidelines (<http://www.agriculture.gov.au/fees/charging-guidelines>).

Complete the following details and email to the department **at least seven (7) working days** prior to the date of intended transit/transhipment.

**Note:** If the application is for a cat or dog travelling from New Zealand, email the department at least three (3) working days prior to the date of intended transit/transhipment.

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| **Regional office** | **Phone** | **Email** |
| Sydney | +61 2 8334 7434 | ceranimalimports@agriculture.gov.au |
| Melbourne | +61 3 8318 6767 | seanimal@agriculture.gov.au |
| Brisbane | +61 7 3246 8704  +61 7 3637 7749 | qldliveanimalimports@agriculture.gov.au |
| Adelaide | +61 8 8201 6000 | saairfreight@agriculture.gov.au and  SAanimalimports@agriculture.gov.au |
| Perth | 1800 900 090 | WAliveanimalimports@agriculture.gov.au |
| Darwin | +61 8 8998 4900 | NTliveanimalimports@agriculture.gov.au  and  ntcontroller@agriculture.gov.au |

## Conditions for transit/transhipment

If approval is granted, the following general conditions will be imposed for transit/transhipment of animals (additional conditions may also apply):

1. Transit/transhipment times must be kept to **less than six (6) hours** (longer transits/ transhipments may be permitted upon assessment of biosecurity risks by the department).
2. The animals must be packed in secure packaging according to International Air Transport Association (IATA) guidelines and must not be unpacked during transit/transhipment.
3. Animals must not leave the international side of the airport of arrival.
4. The animals must be kept isolated from all other animals and may be moved to an Approved Arrangement site for isolation if required.
5. Animals must be transported and held during transit/transhipment according to IATA guidelines.
6. Any waste associated with the animals must either remain on the aircraft and leave Australia with the consignment or be disposed of as biosecurity waste.
7. To prevent contamination, a biosecurity officer may direct that personnel and equipment be subjected to appropriate biosecurity measures.
8. Health certification accompanying the consignment, issued by the certifying authority in the country of origin, must be provided for department records and accessible for review by a biosecurity officer.
9. Animals must not be loaded onto the flight inbound to Australia if it has been delayed and the animals are unlikely to make the connecting outbound flight from Australia.
10. In the event of any alteration to this protocol, or to the travel schedule, the department must be contacted immediately.
11. In event of any alteration to this protocol, and should the contingency alternatives fail, the department may require that the animals be euthanased or re-exported immediately at the discretion of the department.

If the animals transiting/transhipping are considered by the department to be large or high profile (examples include alpacas and zoo animals), the following additional conditions will apply:

1. A biosecurity officer may directly supervise the animals while in transit/transhipment for all or part of the duration.
2. A veterinarian with experience in the relevant species must be identified, notified and on-call to respond to animal health and/or welfare problems that may present a biosecurity risk (veterinarians name and contact numbers must be provided to the relevant department office).
3. A representative of the airline or transit agent must be available and contactable at all times while the animals are transiting/transhipping in Australia (representatives name and contact number must be provided to the relevant department office).

Departmental approval for the transit or transhipment of consignments of animals through an Australian airport is considered case-by-case. No blanket approvals for transit/transhipment of animals are given and approval of one consignment does not guarantee that future applications for transit/transhipment will be approved.

## Application to transit/tranship

This form must be lodged at least seven working days before the intended transit/transhipment.

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| --- | --- |
| **Country of export (origin):** |  |
| **Country of import (destination):** |  |
| **Transit/transhipment arrival airport:** |  |
| **Transit – remain on the aircraft (Yes/No)** | **Transhipment – change aircraft (Yes/No)** |
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## Personnel Details

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| --- | --- | --- | --- |
|  | **Applicant** | **Agent in Australia** | **Nominated Veterinarian**  **(for large or high profile animals only)** |
| **Name:** |  |  |  |
| **Phone:** |  |  |  |
| **Mobile:** |  |  |  |
| **Fax:** |  |  |  |
| **Email:** |  |  |  |
| **Address:** |  |  |  |

## Animal Information

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| --- | --- | --- | --- |
| **Species:** |  | | |
| **Breed:** |  | | |
| **Number of animals:** |  | | |
| **Identification/microchip number(s):** |  | | |
| **Number of cartons/crates** |  | **Weight of the consignment (kg)** |  |

## Aircraft Information

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| --- | --- | --- | --- |
| **Inbound flight number** | **Arrival Date** | **Arrival Time** | **Air Waybill Number** |
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| **Outbound flight number** | **Departure Date** | **Departure time** | **Duration of transit/transhipment** |
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## Contingency plan

A contingency plan is attached and contains but is not limited to:

* Location and nature of the facilities to accommodate and isolate animals at the airport in the event:
* the animals need to leave the aircraft due to technical issues (for planned transits); or
* the animals cannot be loaded on the outbound flight (for planned transhipments); or
* the outbound flight is delayed or cannot depart (for planned transhipments).

The location must meet biosecurity and security requirements.

* Details of the next available contingency flight (including flight number, departure date and time) to forward the animals to the country of import if the animals cannot depart on the outbound flight as scheduled.
* Details of the next available flight (including flight number, departure date and time) that can transport the animals back to the country of origin (and any relevant transit countries) if no contingency flight to the country of import is available.
* Details as to whether in the event of a delayed flight, the animals can stay on board the aircraft and for how long (for planned transits).
* Relevant approval from the airport authority or confirmation from Approved Arrangement site of status of these accommodation and isolation facilities.
* Acknowledgement that should all practicable flight/contingency alternatives fail, the department may require that the animals be euthanased and disposed of as biosecurity waste.
* A copy of the import conditions and permit (if a permit is required) for the country of import (destination) must be attached.

If requested by the department, the following must also be attached:

* Written agreement from the country of import to accept the animals should their arrival be delayed.
* Written agreement from the country of origin (and any relevant transit countries) to accept the return of the animals should this be required by the department.

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| **Signature of applicant:** |  |
| **Printed name:** |  |
| **Date:** |  |

## Approval

This permit is: granted ornot granted.

Details of any additional conditions applied:

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| **Biosecurity/Veterinary Officer:** |  |
| **Signature:** |  |
| **Date:** |  |
| **Contact details**  ***Phone:***  ***Email:*** |  |

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| **Changes after a permit is granted**  If there are changes to any of the flight schedules approved in this permit that mean:   * the animals are unlikely to make the connecting outbound flight; or * that the transit/transhipment time increases beyond six hours (or increases further where approval has been given to a transit/transhipment time greater than six hours)   you must:   * submit an amended permit application by email for reassessment; and * not load the animals on the inbound flight to Australia unless an amended permit is granted.   If this change becomes known less than 48 hours prior to the animals’ arrival in Australia, you must also urgently notify the regional office by phone.  Minor adjustments in scheduled flight times — those that don’t impact transit/transhipment time or likelihood of making the outbound flight — may be notified to the regional office by email and the animals loaded as planned.  The Director of Biosecurity may, in accordance with section 180 of the Biosecurity Act 2015, vary conditions on a permit or impose additional conditions. Additional permit reassessment, inspection and supervision fees and charges may apply. |