



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 and Water Resources 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](#) 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.

Australian State	Phone	Fax	Email
New South Wales	+61 2 8334 7434	No fax	ceranimalimports@agriculture.gov.au
Victoria	+61 3 8318 6767	+61 3 8308 5071	seanimal@agriculture.gov.au
Queensland	+61 7 3246 8704 +61 7 3637 7749	No fax	qldliveanimalimports@agriculture.gov.au
South Australia	+61 8 8201 6000	+61 8 8201 6087	saairfreight@agriculture.gov.au
Western Australia	1800 900 090	+61 8 9475 2666	WAliveanimalimports@agriculture.gov.au
Northern Territory	+61 8 8998 4900	+61 8 8998 4911	NTliveanimalimports@agriculture.gov.au and ntcontroller@agriculture.gov.au

If there is a change to the intended travel schedule, you must notify the department's regional office in the state or territory of the airport in writing immediately and if the change is within 24 hours of travel you must also notify the nominated biosecurity officer by phone.

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. For animal welfare reasons, transit/transhipment times must be kept to **less than six (6) hours** (longer transits/transhipments are by negotiation with 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. The animals must be kept isolated in a biosecure area.
4. The temperature in the area where the animals are held must not exceed 28°C, and the animals must be transported according to IATA guidelines. Adequate ventilation must be provided at all times.
5. 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.
6. To prevent contamination, a biosecurity officer may direct that personnel and equipment be subjected to appropriate biosecurity measures.
7. 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.
8. Animals should not be loaded in the exporting country if the initial flight to Australia has been delayed and the animals are unlikely to make the connecting aircraft in Australia.
9. In the event of any alteration to this protocol, or to the travel schedule, the department must be contacted immediately.
10. 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, birds and zoo animals), the following additional conditions will apply:

11. A biosecurity officer may directly supervise the animals while in transit/transhipment for all or part of the duration.
12. A veterinarian with experience in the relevant species must be identified, notified and on-call to respond to animal health and/or welfare problems for all shipments of animals (veterinarians name and contact numbers must be provided to the relevant department office).
13. 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.

Country of export (origin):	
Country of import (destination):	
Transit/transhipment arrival airport:	
Transit – remain on the aircraft (Yes/No)	Transhipment – change aircraft (Yes/No)

Personnel Details

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

Animal Information

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

Aircraft Information

Incoming flight number	Arrival Date	Arrival Time	Air Waybill Number
Outgoing flight number	Departure Date	Departure time	

Contingency plan

A contingency plan in the event of the outgoing flight being delayed or an injured/sick animal is attached and contains but is not limited to:

- Details of the next available contingency flight to forward the animals to the country of import if the arranged connecting flight cannot depart as scheduled

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- Details of the next available flight 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
- 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 or if the consignment is classified as a transshipment. The location must meet biosecurity, welfare and security requirements
- Relevant approval from the airport authority regarding 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

Signature of applicant:	
Printed name:	
Date:	

Approval

This permit is: granted or not granted.

Biosecurity/Veterinary Officer:	
Signature:	
Date:	

Document information

The following table contains administrative metadata.

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Version history

The following table details the published date and amendment details for this document.

Version	Date	Amendment details
1.0	07/09/2016	New form for national consistency and effective implementation of biosecurity measures.
2.0	March 2017	Updated following several months use by regional staff. Further details about what an acceptable contingency plan is has been included.
3.0	April 2017	Update email address for South Australia regional team.
4.0	July 2017	Updated application to be specific for transits/transshipment through Australian airports and added Northern Territory regional office email address.

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