

<b>HEALTH CERTIFICATES</b>	<p><b>A dog, cat, or nonhuman primate</b> transported or delivered for transportation in commerce by an exhibitor must be accompanied by a health certificate. [2.78, Policy #18]</p> <p>A <b>marine mammal</b> delivered for transportation in commerce by an exhibitor must be accompanied by a health certificate. [3.112]</p> <p>The AWA does not require health certificates for <b>any other animals</b>.</p>
<b>State Regulations</b>	<p>An exhibitor transporting a regulated animal from State to State must meet all the individual State regulations.</p> <p><b>NOTE:</b> Animal Care does not enforce the State regulations. If the exhibitor has questions about State regulations, you should tell him/her to contact:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• the State</li><li>• their veterinarian</li><li>• Center for Epidemiology and Animal Health at 1-800-545-USDA (8732), and/or</li><li>• VS at <a href="http://www.aphis.usda.gov/vs/sregs">www.aphis.usda.gov/vs/sregs</a></li></ul>
<b>Duration of a Health Certificate</b>	<p>There is no specific expiration date for a health certificate in the AWA regulations. Because of the varying lengths of tours and durations of stays for traveling exhibitors, the validity of the health certificate should be evaluated on a case-by-case basis.</p> <p>For a <b>traveling exhibitor</b>, health certificates are valid until the animals return to the home facility. A new health certificate is required when an exhibitor leaves on a new tour.</p> <p>If an exhibitor is <b>continually traveling</b>, it is recommended that the exhibitor acquire a new health certificate every 6 months.</p> <p><b>REMEMBER:</b> The lack of an updated health certificate may not be cited as a stand-alone violation. The citation of inadequate veterinary care for a sick animal may include a reference to the lack of an updated health certificate, if appropriate.</p>

**Species Specific**

**Dogs and Cats**

A health certificate is required when an exhibitor/dealer: [2.78(a)]

- transports a dog or cat across a state line
- delivers a dog or cat to a carrier or intermediate handler

NOTE: A dog/cat transported **within** the State and in the exhibitor's private vehicle does not require a health certificate. [Policy #18]

The health certificate must: [2.78(a)]

- be issued by a licensed veterinarian
- state that the animal was inspected on a specific date  
NOTE: This date must be within 10 days prior to delivery of the animal for transport.
- state that the animal appeared to be free of any infectious disease or physical abnormality that would endanger the animal, other animals or the general public

NOTE: If a health certificate contains a stamped veterinarian's signature, a copy should be forwarded to the Regional Office. The stamped signature may be a violation of a State law.

The U.S. Interstate and International Certificate of Health Examination for Small Animals (APHIS Form 7001) may be used for the health certification (see page 13.4.5). [2.78(d)]

**Nonhuman Primates**

A health certificate is required when an exhibitor/dealer: [2.78(a)]

- transports a nonhuman primate across a state line
- delivers a nonhuman primate to a carrier or intermediate handler

NOTE: A nonhuman primate transported **within** the State and in the exhibitor's private vehicle does not require a health certificate. [Policy #18]

The health certificate must: [2.78(a)]

- be issued by a licensed veterinarian
- state that the animal was inspected on a specific date  
NOTE: This date must be within 10 days prior to delivery of the animal for transport.
- state that the animal appeared to be free of any infectious disease or physical abnormality that would endanger the animal, other animals or the general public

NOTE: If a health certificate contains a stamped veterinarian's signature, a copy should be forwarded to the Regional Office. The stamped signature may be a violation of a State law.

The U.S. Interstate and International Certificate of Health Examination for Small Animals (APHIS Form 7001) may be used for the health certification (see page 13.4.5). [2.37(d)]

#### **Marine Mammals**

A health certificate is required when an exhibitor/dealer delivers a marine mammal to a carrier or intermediate handler. [3.112(a)]

The health certificate must: [3.112(a)]

- be signed by the attending veterinarian
- state that the animal was examined within the prior 10 days
- state that the animal was found to be in acceptable health for transport

NOTE: If a health certificate contains a stamped veterinarian's signature, a copy should be forwarded to the Regional Office. The stamped signature may be a violation of a State law.

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#### **Exemption**

##### **Dogs, Cats and Nonhuman Primates**

The Secretary of Agriculture may provide an exemption to the health certificate requirement on an individual basis for a **dog/cat, or nonhuman primate** shipped to a research facility when the research facility requires an animal not eligible for a health certificate. [2.78(b)]

Requests for an exemption must:

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- be in writing
  - contain the reason/justification for the exemption
  - be sent to:  
USDA, APHIS, AC  
4700 River Road, Unit 84  
Riverdale, MD 20737-1234
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