

Exporting Dogs from Malawi to the USA

Effective July 14, 2021, Dogs from Malawi (and other high risk rabies countries) will not be allowed to freely enter the United States of America as a ban has been put in place for animals coming from high risk rabies countries.

<https://www.federalregister.gov/documents/2021/06/16/2021-12418/temporary-suspension-of-dogs-entering-the-united-states-from-high-risk-rabies-countries>

The suspension provisions do not apply if advanced written approval from CDC has been obtained. To obtain this written approval you must submit a request for advanced written permission (i.e. Application for an Import permit) at least 30 working days prior to planned importation into the USA. Such approvals will be granted on a limited and case-by-case basis at CDC's discretion and their decision will be final

For consideration you must be ready to provide:

1. Proof of the dog's identity including
 - a. pictures of the dogs' teeth,
 - b. other descriptive details i.e. breed, colour, unique markings, tattoo and
 - c. Microchip information.
2. Sufficient and reliable evidence demonstrating that the dog has been fully immunized against rabies. This can be either
 - a. A valid vaccinations certificate issued in the USA by a US- Licensed veterinarian. The certificate must state that the vaccine was administered on or after the dog was 12 weeks (84 days) of age and at least 28 days prior to entry , if it was the dogs initial vaccine OR
 - b. A valid rabies vaccination certificate from a non-US-licensed veterinarian AND serologic evidence of rabies vaccination from an approved rabies serology laboratory. (List of approved labs: <https://www.cdc.gov/importation/bringing-an-animal-into-the-united-states/approved-labs.html>)
3. Furthermore based on circumstances the importer will be required to submit the following
 - a. Permanent Change of Station (PCS) orders, or Temporary Duty Orders (TDY) (U.S. Government personnel);
 - b. Documentation or evidence that the dog to be imported is a service dog (as defined in this Notice);
 - c. Employment letter or other evidence of relocating to the United States after living abroad; or
 - d. Other justification that meets the above-listed eligibility criteria along with supporting documentation.