

Air Carrier Responsibilities:

No commercial dogs from countries at high-risk for dog rabies to enter Canada

In effect: September 28, 2022

Rabies caused by canine-variant viruses (dog rabies)¹ is a fatal disease that is easily transmittable through close contact. It is found in some countries but not in Canada. We want to keep it that way. Help us protect the health and safety of people and animals in Canada.



What you should know:

- **All commercial dogs** coming from the [list of countries](#) (see **Annex A**) considered to be at high-risk for dog rabies are not allowed to enter Canada.² **It is important for air carriers to ensure that these commercial dogs do not board the aircraft.**
- The importation of personal pet dogs or assistance dogs originating from these countries will continue to be allowed as long as they meet all the Canadian Food Inspection Agency's (CFIA) [import requirements and appropriate documentation](#).
- The CFIA continues to work with federal government partners, airlines and industry to implement this measure.

Commercial dogs vs. Personal dogs vs. Assistance Dogs

- **Commercial dogs include** dogs intended for purposes such as being given/transferred to another person, resale, adoption, fostering, breeding, show or exhibition and research.
- **Personal dogs include** dogs that are intended to live with the owner who is bringing the animal into Canada as a pet dog.
- **Assistance dogs include** dogs that are trained and certified by an organization credited by Assistance Dogs International or the International Guide Dog Federation to provide a distinct service to the individual to which the dog belongs. It does not include emotional support animals, therapy animals, comfort animals, companionship animals, or service animals in training.

For airline staff:

Questions to ask **BEFORE** boarding or loading a dog



IMPORTANT

Communicate to all passengers with dogs / dog importers

Please ensure your dog meets the CFIA's import requirements and appropriate documentation, because their information will be reviewed upon arrival in Canada.

The CFIA has the authority to order animals removed from Canada at the importer's expense if the import requirements and documentation are not met.

For more information on importing dogs to Canada: inspection.canada.ca/dog-decision

¹ The rabies virus is a fatal disease of the central nervous system that can be transmitted between mammals, including to humans, through close contact. Dog rabies is a specific variant of rabies caused by canine-variant viruses.

² Notice to industry: New measure prohibiting the entry of commercial dogs from countries at high-risk for dog rabies



Annex A

Countries at high-risk for dog rabies



Africa

Algeria | Angola | Benin | Botswana | Burkina Faso | Burundi | Cameroon
Central Africa Republic | Chad Comoros | Côte D'Ivoire (Ivory Coast)
Democratic Republic of the Congo | Djibouti | Egypt | Equatorial Guinea
Eritrea | Eswatini (Swaziland) | Ethiopia | Gabon | Gambia | Ghana
Guinea | Guinea-Bissau | Kenya | Lesotho | Liberia | Libya | Madagascar
Malawi | Mali, | Mauritania | Morocco | Mozambique | Namibia | Niger
Nigeria | Republic of Congo | Rwanda | Sao Tome and Principe | Senegal
Sierra Leone | Somalia | South Africa | South Sudan | Sudan | Tanzania
(including Zanzibar) | Togo | Tunisia | Uganda | Western Sahara
Zambia | Zimbabwe



Asia and the Middle East, Eastern Europe

Afghanistan | Armenia, Azerbaijan | Bangladesh | Belarus | Brunei
Cambodia | China (mainland only) | Georgia India | Indonesia | Iran
Iraq | Jordan | Kazakhstan | Kuwait | Kyrgyzstan | Laos | Lebanon
Malaysia | Moldova | Mongolia | Myanmar (Burma) | Nepal | North Korea
Oman | Pakistan | Philippines | Qatar | Russia | Saudi Arabia | Sri Lanka
Syria | Tajikistan | Thailand | Türkiye | Turkmenistan | Ukraine | United
Arab Emirates | Uzbekistan | Vietnam | Yemen



Americas and Caribbean

Belize | Bolivia | Brazil | Colombia | Cuba | Dominican Republic
Ecuador | El Salvador | Guatemala | Guyana | Haiti | Honduras
Peru | Suriname | Venezuela

This list is reviewed regularly and is subject to change.

