

Pet Shipping & Health Certificate Guide

Shipping your pet from the CNMI to other destinations.

updated 05/28/2026 by Lauren Cabrera, DLNR Animal Health Section

START HERE

What is a Health Certificate (HC)?

This is a document issued by a USDA-accredited veterinarian who determines your pet to be healthy enough to fly and import to the destination.

Who Can Issue a HC?

- A USDA-accredited veterinarian licensed in the CNMI who examines the pet
- A USDA-accredited veterinarian working at Guam's quarantine facility who examines the pet

Common Misconceptions

- x Health Certificates **cannot** be provided virtually.
- x They **cannot** be provided by veterinarians who are not USDA-accredited.
- x Not all veterinarians are USDA-accredited.

DISCLAIMER

Airline and destination requirements for pet shipping change frequently. This guide is only intended to be a starting point for pet owners. Owners are responsible for confirming current import requirements with the destination jurisdiction and airline prior to travel.

APHIS (USDA Animal and Plant Health Inspection Service) website has the most up-to-date information regarding pets traveling from the U.S. to other countries and their specific requirements. [Visit here to learn more.](#)

Rabies Blood Test (FAVN) Info

The FAVN results show that your pet is protected from rabies.

This is required for import to Guam, Hawaii, Japan, Korea, and some other locations. It is **not** required for import to mainland U.S. or the Philippines.

Requirements for FAVN Testing

1. Rabies vaccine #1
2. Wait 30+ days
3. Rabies vaccine #2
4. Wait 30+ days
5. Draw blood for FAVN

Does Your Destination Require FAVN?

Required: Guam, Hawaii, Japan, South Korea, etc.

Not Required: Mainland U.S., the Philippines, transit (usually)

The Challenge

Saipan Humane Society (SHS) does draw blood for FAVNs. However, they are not able to ship the blood stateside because it must be kept cool.

Therefore, a volunteer must be willing to carry the blood stateside. This is why FAVN testing is not frequently offered by SHS.

Timing Matters: Plan Ahead!

- **Mainland:** 2-4 weeks
- **Philippines:** 2-4 weeks
- **Guam:** 3-6 months
- **Japan:** 3-6 months
- **Korea:** 3-6 months

Health Certificate Challenges

Not every veterinarian who visits the CNMI is USDA-accredited. If you must leave urgently and there is no USDA-accredited veterinarian available, we suggest reaching out to Harper Valley Kennels at petshippersguam@gmail.com. Given our unique circumstances, they will accept pets into their quarantine facility and issue a health certificate for travel there.

Endorsement

Government endorsement (seal/signature) is required by most destinations. This can be arranged by emailing cnmianimalhealth@gmail.com.

Medical Requirements per Destination

U.S. Mainland

Dogs	Cats
minimum 6 months old	no age restriction
rabies vaccine with certificate	rabies vaccine with certificate
microchip *listed on rabies certificate	microchip *listed on rabies certificate
DHPP, Lepto, Bordetella vaccines	FVRCP vaccine
flea/tick medication	flea/tick medication
Health Certificate	Health Certificate
CDC Dog Import Form	

Guam

Dogs & Cat Requirements

Rabies vaccine x2 with certificates

Rabies vaccine x2 with certificates & microchip # listed

core dog/cat vaccines

flea/tick medication, deworming on HC

Health Certificate within 10 days

Endorsement of HC by DLNR

CDC Import Form

FAVN rabies blood test

Entry Permit

Quarantine Reservation

*note: quarantine reservations are required for all pets.

***To Apply for Guam Entry Permit:**

Guam Dept of Agriculture: quarantine@doag.guam.gov or (671) 300-7964/66

- Need to submit above records, quarantine reservation confirmation, and entry permit fee in order to get entry permit issued.

***To Book Quarantine Reservations:**

Harper Valley Kennels: (671) 797-0393, petshippersguam@gmail.com

***To Book Flight:**

Micronesia Air Cargo Services: (670) 288-6227

The Philippines

Dogs & Cat Requirements

SPS Import Clearance completed by owner (BAI website)

Rabies vaccine +30 days before travel

microchip documentation

core dog/cat vaccines

flea/tick medication, deworming documented on HC

Health Certificate within 10 days

Endorsement of HC by DLNR

Pet photograph

A quarantine certificate is issued upon arrival. This is tied to the landing permit.

South Korea

Dogs & Cat Requirements

Rabies vaccine x2 with certificates & microchip # listed

microchip

core dog/cat vaccines

flea/tick medication, deworming documented on HC

Health Certificate within 30 days: Must be specific Korea HC

Endorsement of HC by DLNR

FAVN +/- 0.5 IU/mL completed within 24 months

If FAVN not completed, pet will be quarantined until results are returned. [Learn More](#).

Japan

Dogs & Cat Requirements

Rabies vaccine x2 with certificates & microchip # listed

microchip

core dog/cat vaccines

flea/tick medication, deworming documented on HC

FAVN +/- 0.5 IU/mL completed within 24 months

180 day wait between day of FAVN collection and import

Health Certificate within 10 days

Endorsement of HC by DLNR

Advance notification required 40+ days prior to arrival: [See here](#)

[Japan Animal Quarantine website](#)

Core Vaccines

Dog: DHPP, Leptospirosis, Bordetella (available at SHS)

Cat: FVRCP (available at SHS)

Rabies vaccines can only be given by a locally licensed veterinarian.

Airline Policy Considerations

Jeju Air

Per Jeju Air's 03/26/26 notice: Pet-in-Cabin (PETC) **cannot transfer between airlines**. This means that your pet cannot fly in-cabin from Jeju to Korea and then switch to a domestic airline to reach the mainland.

Unfortunately, you also cannot fly a foreign carrier between two U.S. ports due to cabotage law.

United Airlines

The PetSafe program was discontinued and United Airlines no longer ships pets as cargo. They also do not allow pets in-cabin from the CNMI.

Our best suggestion for transporting your pet to any location is to use a pet shipper:

- Lisa Meador Animal Travel Agent: Lisa@animaltravelagent.com
- Harper Valley Kennels: petshippersguam@gmail.com

Rabies-Free Status

Despite having no recorded cases of rabies, the CNMI is not considered rabies-free. Therefore, your pet must obtain FAVN testing to enter certain places such as Guam, Hawaii, Japan, and Korea.

The CNMI hopes to achieve rabies-free status when there is a resident veterinarian and functional quarantine facility.

Questions? cnmianimalhealth@gmail.com