



**Australian Government**  
**Department of Agriculture,**  
**Fisheries and Forestry**  
Australian Quarantine and  
Inspection Service

## *Information Sheet 5*

*Cats and dogs from the Republic of South Africa*

### **MINIMUM OF 210 DAYS IN QUARANTINE**

Further advice can be found at [www.aqis.gov.au](http://www.aqis.gov.au) or by e-mail at [animalimp@aqis.gov.au](mailto:animalimp@aqis.gov.au) or by ph +612 6272 4454 or by fax +612 6272 3110

#### **SUMMARY**

**Dogs and cats travelling to Australia from the Republic of South Africa must spend a total Quarantine period of 210 days, comprising a minimum of 90 days pre-export quarantine in South Africa and minimum 30 days quarantine in Australia, and the remaining 90 days quarantine in either South Africa or Australia.**

All animals entering Australia require an import permit, issued by AQIS. To obtain an import permit, an application to import your pet must be completed. Your application must include your pet's microchip number, rabies vaccination and rabies neutralising antibody titre test. An import permit will be returned. The import permit contains Veterinary Certificate A and B which must be completed and endorsed by an Official Veterinarian in South Africa prior to the arrival of your pet in Australia. The steps below provide information for completing the entire import process.

The owner/importer must pay all [quarantine fees](#) associated with the import and [quarantine accommodation](#) of your dog or cat in Australia.

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Updated December 2006

*check once  
completed*

#### **STEP 1: GENERAL ELIGIBILITY**

**Time Frame:** Confirm eligibility before proceeding.

**Residency:** Dogs and cats must have been living continuously in South Africa for a minimum of 6 months immediately prior to shipment, or since direct importation from Australia (please see last page before proceeding).

**Pregnancy:** Female pets must not be pregnant nor be suckling young at the time of export.

**Breeds:** Under the legislation of the Australian Customs Service (ACS) dogs of the following breeds are not eligible for importation into Australia. The ACS can be contacted on 61 2 6245 5484 or 1300 363 263

- dogo Argentino
- fila Brasileiro
- Japanese tosa
- Pit bull terrier or American pit bull
- Presa Canario

Under the legislation of Department of the Environment and Heritage domestic/non-domestic animal hybrids eg bengal cats or wolf crosses are not eligible for import, unless they are proven to be 5<sup>th</sup> generation or more away from any pure-bred non-domestic ancestor. Please contact Wildlife Permits and Enforcement Section, The Australian Government Department of Environment and Heritage on 02 6274 1111 for further information.



## STEP 2: MICROCHIP CAT OR DOG

**Time Frame:** Microchips must be implanted either before or at the same time as the blood test for rabies antibodies.

Dogs and cats must be identified by a microchip that can be read by an Avid®, Trovan®, Destron® or other ISO compatible reader.

## STEP 3: RABIES VACCINATION

**Time Frame:** Within 1 year of export.

**Note:** CATS AND DOGS



Your pet must be vaccinated against rabies with an approved inactivated rabies virus vaccine within 1 year of export and when it was at least 3 months old.

Rabies vaccination certificate/s must be presented to the Official Veterinarian when completing the Rabies vaccination and Rabies Neutralising Antibody Titre Test (RNATT) Declaration of the application form for an AQIS import permit.

## STEP 4: FIND AN OFFICIAL (GOVERNMENT) VETERINARIAN.

**Time frame:** Before collecting blood for rabies antibodies.



**Official Veterinarian:** A government officer employed by the Department of Agriculture Veterinary Service in South Africa. Official Vets endorse Veterinary Certificate A and complete Veterinary Certificate B. The Official Veterinarian must also complete, sign and stamp the Rabies vaccination and Rabies Neutralising Antibody Titre Test (RNATT) Declaration of your application form before it can be forwarded to AQIS. The Official Veterinarian will also help you find a “government approved vet” and a “government approved laboratory”. The South African Department of Agriculture can be contacted on +27 12 319 6000

**Government approved vet:** A veterinarian approved by the South African Department of Agriculture, Veterinary Service who will prepare your pet for export to Australia and fill in the details of these preparation on Veterinary Certificate A of the AQIS import permit.

**Government approved laboratories:** Labs approved by the South African Veterinary Service to test samples from animals destined for export. Alternatively the [Australian Animal Health Laboratory](#) (AAHL) can do all testing for you. Fax: +613 5227 5555 Ph: +613 5227 5329



## STEP 5: RABIES NEUTRALISING ANTIBODY TITRE TEST (RNATT)

**Time frame:** Between 3 and 12 months prior to export, and prior to commencement of the quarantine period in South Africa.

**Note:** As this test measures your pet’s antibody response to the rabies vaccination it should be done at least 4 weeks after the rabies vaccination (unless your pet has been previously vaccinated against rabies). This enables your pet to produce sufficient antibodies to record a positive result.

You will need to arrange for a government approved veterinarian to scan your pet’s microchip and draw a blood sample for the RNATT. **The scanned microchip number must be written on the blood tube and on the laboratory submission form.**

A government-approved laboratory must carry out testing. The laboratory report must include your pet's microchip number. Only animals with a titre level reported as at least 0.5 IU/ml are eligible for import. If a result of less than 0.5 IU/ml is obtained you must re-vaccinate your pet/s and repeat the process.

The RNATT report must be presented to an Official Veterinarian when completing the rabies vaccination and Rabies Neutralising Antibody Titre Test (RNATT) Declaration of the AQIS application form for an import permit and be forwarded with your application to Australia.

Your pet/s will not be eligible for import into Australia until at least 3 months has elapsed between the date of blood collection for the RNATT and export to Australia. The RNATT is only valid for 1 year from the date of blood collection. **Two hundred and ten days (210) days must elapse between the date that the blood was taken for the RNAT test (with a satisfactory result) and the date your pet is released from quarantine in Australia.**

If you need to repeat your pet's RNATT you must re-test within a year of the initial RNATT to demonstrate continuous protection against rabies.

**Note: The microchip number must be correct on the official RNATT laboratory report before a permit can be issued. Please ensure that all numbers of the microchip including the manufacturer's number are included on the submission form for the RNATT to the referring laboratory.**

#### **STEP 6: BOOK INTO A GOVERNMENT APPROVED QUARANTINE KENNEL IN SOUTH AFRICA**

**Time Frame:** More than 3 months before export to Australia



Subsequent to blood being taken and providing a satisfactory RNATT result, dogs and cats must be continuously confined in a government approved rabies free premise in South Africa for at least 3 months immediately prior to export. These premises are approved by the South African National Department of Agriculture - Veterinary Services. The following kennels are currently approved. These kennels can prepare your pet/s for export to Australia.

<b><i>Keringa Kennels</i></b> Orange River Road Terenure, Kempton Park PO Box 6168 Birchleigh, 1621 South Africa  Phone: 27 11 976 3030 Fax: 27 11 393 3907 Email: <a href="mailto:enquiries@keringa.co.za">enquiries@keringa.co.za</a>	<b><i>Kookaburra Kennels</i></b> 214 Jean Avenue Clubview, Centurion  Phone/Fax: 27 12 654 1270 Mobile: 27 82 925 1859 or 27 84 528 0548 Email: <a href="mailto:kookaburra@wol.co.za">kookaburra@wol.co.za</a>
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The time spent in quarantine in South Africa will determine the amount of time your pet must stay in quarantine in Australia.

Keep in mind that your pet must spend at least a minimum 30 days in quarantine in Australia. This means that if you want your pet to be quarantined in Australia for the minimum amount of time of 30 days then your pet must spend 180 days prior to export in continuous quarantine in South Africa.

## To calculate the Quarantine time:

90 days Republic of South Africa (RSA) + 30 days Australia (AUS)+ 90 days (RSA or AUS) = 210 days

- 90 days in Republic of South Africa, mandatory
- 30 days in Australia, mandatory
- 90 days in the Republic of South Africa or Australia can be the importers choice as long as the total continuous quarantine period is 210 days.



## STEP 7: APPLY FOR A PERMIT TO IMPORT

**Time frame:** After you have the RNATT laboratory report.

**Note:** The AQIS import permits are only valid for 9 months from the day that AQIS receives your application.

Please fill out the application form and send it to:

AQIS - Live Animal Imports GPO Box 858 Canberra 2601 Australia	Fax 61 2 6272 3110 Phone 61 2 6272 4454
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An Official Vet will have to complete, sign and stamp the rabies vaccination and Rabies Neutralising Antibody Titre Test (RNATT) Declaration of the application form.

Your pet will not be allowed to enter Australia without a valid AQIS permit to import.

People wishing to have their pets accommodated at an Australian animal quarantine station should apply for an import permit at least 5 months in advance of anticipated departure.

An import permit does not guarantee a space at an animal quarantine station.

### **BOOKINGS MUST BE MADE FOR YOUR PET/S.**

To book a space at an Australian animal quarantine station, a permit number is required. Once an import permit has been issued for your pet/s and you have a permit number, contact the relevant animal quarantine station to make a reservation. Please note the waiting time can be at least 5 months.

Provision of an airway bill number to the animal quarantine station will be required to confirm your pet/s reservation closer to the time of departure.



## STEP 8: AQIS IMPORT PERMIT

**Time Frame:** An AQIS import permit will be sent to the person/company nominated on the application form immediately following approval by AQIS of your application.

You may request the import permit to be faxed; a copy of the import permit may be used.

The permit includes Veterinary Certificates A and B. This information sheet will take you through the steps required to complete these veterinary certificates. You may continue to prepare your pet/s for export before the AQIS import permit and veterinary certificates arrive.

## STEP 9: COMMENCE TRAVEL ARRANGEMENTS

**Time frame:** After you have received the import permit from AQIS.

Your pet can only come into Australia through the following airports: Kingsford Smith Airport in Sydney (New South Wales), **or** Tullamarine Airport in Melbourne (Victoria), **or** Perth Airport in Perth (Western Australia).

AQIS does not place any restrictions on the airline you choose to use, however your pet must travel as “Manifested Cargo” (not in the cabin) and in an International Air Transport Association (IATA) approved container for dogs and cats. Strict compliance with container specifications is vital for the safe and secure transport of your animal. Problems **will occur** if your pet can escape from this container or if any part of its body (nose, limbs, or tail) can protrude. Your airline can help you with these requirements.

During transport to Australia pets may transit (stay on the same plane) or trans-ship (change planes) in all countries (AQIS approved or not), however the original seals on the cages must not be broken. Trans-shipment may also require approval from the quarantine authority in the country of trans-shipment. AQIS strongly advises booking direct flights due to health and welfare concerns, eg pets missing connecting flights and remaining in airports for extended periods.

If you are not able to organise travel yourself the government approved kennels or animal transport agents can make arrangements on your behalf.

Please note you will be charged an additional fee of \$25 if your pet arrives in Australia outside business hours (Monday to Friday 8:00am - 4:00 pm). You are also required to seek prior approval of the relevant quarantine station for after hour’s pick-ups from the airport.

All transport costs are at the expense of the importer.

## STEP 10: GENERAL VACCINATIONS

**Time frame:** Between 12 months and 14 days prior to export.

Vaccinations must be valid for the entire period spent in quarantine in Australia. If vaccinations expire prior to your pet’s release from quarantine they may be re-vaccinated at the owner’s expense.

**Dogs** must be vaccinated against distemper, infectious hepatitis, canine parvovirus (parvo), para-influenza and *Bordetella bronchiseptica* (kennel cough). If the *Bordetella bronchiseptica* (kennel cough) is not available in the country of origin, dogs may be vaccinated for kennel cough on arrival in Australia at the owner’s expense.

**Note:** Vaccination against *Leptospira interrogans*.var. *canicola* is not recommended within 6 months of export as the subsequent antibody response is likely to give a positive result on pre-export testing making your dog ineligible for export to Australia.

**Cats** must have been vaccinated against feline enteritis (feline panleucopenia, feline distemper), rhinotracheitis and calicivirus.

*Dogs only*

## **STEP 11: DOGS ONLY – BLOOD TESTS FOR BRUCELLOSIS, EHRLICHIOSIS, LEPTOSPIROSIS AND EXTERNAL PARASITE TREATMENT**

**Time frame:** Within 30 days of export.

**Blood tests:** Arrange for a government approved-veterinarian to scan your dog's microchip and draw blood samples for brucella and ehrlichia (tropical canine pancytopenia) and leptospira. Your dog's microchip number must be recorded on the blood tube. Send blood to a government-approved laboratory for testing. The laboratory report must link your pet's microchip number to the result.

These results must be recorded on Veterinary Certificate A. All laboratory test results must be endorsed by an Official Veterinarian and accompany your pet to Australia. Contact AQIS if your dog does not meet the requirements of these tests.

**Brucellosis:** Your dog/s must be tested for *Brucella canis* infection by a serum agglutination test. The test must produce a negative result. Once blood is collected for this test your dog must not be mated or inseminated prior to export to Australia.

**Leptospirosis:** Dogs must be tested for *Leptospira canicola* by a microscopic agglutination test within 30 days of export.

Dogs that record a negative result (less than 50% agglutination at a serum dilution of 1:100) are eligible for import.

Dogs that record a result of positive at 1:100 or more, but negative at 1:800, must be **re-tested** 14 days or more after the first test. The second test must also show a negative titre at 1:800, however, must not show an increase at the level at which the test is positive from the first test.

Dogs that record a result of 1:800 or more are ineligible for import.

**Note:** Vaccination against *Leptospira interrogans.var. canicola* is not recommended within 6 months of export as your pet's high antibody response will most likely result in it being ineligible for export to Australia.

**Ehrlichiosis:** Your dog/s must be tested for *Ehrlichia canis* infection by the indirect fluorescent antibody test. The test must produce a negative result at a dilution at 1:40. Your pet must be treated for external parasites within 24 hours of blood being taken for this test.

### **Treatment for external parasites**

**Note:** You will have to commence treating your pet/s for external parasites at the same time as taking blood for ehrlichia as this disease is spread by ticks.

Dogs must be treated externally with fipronil (2.5gm/L) at a rate of 6ml/kg. The treatment must be **repeated** according to the manufacturer's instructions in order to keep your pet/s free of ticks and other external parasites until export.

Dates of treatments will need to be recorded on Veterinary Certificate A.

*Dogs only*

## **STEP 12: TREATMENTS FOR BABESIA CANIS ROSSI**

**Time frame:** within 28 days of export.

**Note:** This treatment should not be given within 48 hours of treatment for external parasites as side-effects may be increased.

**Option 1:** A government approved veterinarian must treat your dog once with imidocarb dipropionate (Forray-65®, Hoechst or Imizol® by Coopers) at a rate of 7.5 mg per Kg body weight by subcutaneous injection.

**Option 2:** A government approved veterinarian must treat your dog twice with imidocarb dipropionate (Forray-65®, Hoechst or Imizol® by Coopers) at a rate of 6.6 mg per Kg body weight by subcutaneous injection given two weeks apart.

Details of treatment(s) must be recorded on Veterinary Certificate A.



### **STEP 13: INTERNAL AND EXTERNAL PARASITE TREATMENT**

**Time frame:** Within 4 days of export. This can be done at the same time as the completion of Veterinary Certificate A.

#### **External parasites:**

**For dogs:** You must have already commenced external parasite treatment for dogs. Your dog/s may require repeat treatment for external parasites and will need to be treated for fleas.

**For cats:** Cats must be treated with a product approved for the treatment of ticks and fleas.

Oral products, injections and medicated collars are not satisfactory neither are products that rely on the tick biting your pet. Washes and rinses that prevent ticks and tick bites are acceptable.

The active ingredient, dose rate and treatment date must be recorded on Veterinary Certificate A.

**Internal parasites:** Cats and/or dogs must be treated with a product approved for the treatment of nematodes and cestodes eg Drontal ®. The active ingredient, dose rate and treatment date must be recorded on Veterinary Certificate A.

### **STEP 14: COMPLETION OF VETERINARY CERTIFICATE A, INCLUDING PRE-EXPORT INSPECTION**



**Time frame:** Within 4 days of the export

Please read over Veterinary Certificate A prior to the appointment. You will have to bring your pet/s and all documentation to this inspection. Your pet will be required to be free from clinical signs of infectious or contagious diseases, external parasites and be fit to travel.

Veterinary Certificate A is to be completed by a government approved or an Official Veterinarian.

Any corrections to Veterinary Certificate A will only be accepted if the original entry has been struck through and remains legible – white out must not be used. An Official Veterinarian must sign each correction.



### **STEP 15: COMPLETION OF VETERINARY CERTIFICATE B, SEALING ANIMAL IN THE SHIPPING CONTAINER.**

**Time frame:** After the completion of Veterinary Certificate A, usually on the day of departure.

The following documents must be presented to the Official Veterinarian at this time for signature and stamp (endorsing) and then travel with your pet/s to Australia.

- Original or copy of the AQIS import permit
- Completed Veterinary Certificate A for endorsement by Official Veterinarian.
- Veterinary Certificate B for completion and endorsement by the Official Veterinarian
- General vaccination certificates for endorsement by the Official Veterinarian.
- Rabies vaccination/s certificate for endorsement by the Official Veterinarian.
- RNATT laboratory report for endorsement by the Official Veterinarian.

- Brucellosis, Ehrlichiosis, and Leptospirosis laboratory reports (dogs only) for endorsement by the Official Veterinarian

Copies may be used but the paperwork arriving in Australia with your pet must bear the original signatures and stamps of the Official Veterinarian of the exporting country.

The Official Veterinarian who signs Veterinary Certificate B must record the identification number of the seal on Veterinary Certificate B, and seal your pet into the cage. Under no circumstances must your pet be released from its cage once sealed. Ensure your pet is prepared for travel before the cage is sealed.

A water container should be fixed inside the cage. An external funnel with a hose leading into the water container should be provided to allow water to be replenished without opening the cage. Sufficient absorbent bedding should also be provided (soiled bedding may be destroyed on arrival in Australia). The container should also be marked "Live Animal".

Corrections to Veterinary Certificate B will only be accepted if the original entry has been struck through and remains legible – white out must not be used. The Official Veterinarian must sign each correction.

## **STEP 16: CHECK PET IN WITH THE AIRLINE.**



**Time frame:** Please check with your airline.

In most cases your pet/s will be checked in at the freight terminal, not the passenger terminal.

The import permit, Veterinary Certificates A and B, blood test results and vaccination records must travel to Australia with your pet/s. These documents may be originals or copies but must bear the original signature and stamp of the Official Veterinarian.

Please make photocopies of all documents. AQIS recommends taping the officially completed documents onto the cage while keeping the photocopies with you.

If, in exceptional circumstances, your pet's container must be opened during transit or transshipment it should be resealed and a certificate provided to AQIS by an Official Veterinarian, port authority, or captain of the aircraft detailing the circumstances. Instructions to this effect should be attached to the outside of the container before departure from the port of export.

## **ON ARRIVAL IN AUSTRALIA**

On arrival in Australia your pet/s will be met by AQIS staff and transported by AQIS to the animal quarantine station. AQIS provides housing, bedding, food, water and care for your pet for the duration of its stay. All quarantine costs must be met by the importer, an invoice for these charges will be posted to you after arrival of your pet in Australia and must be paid prior to release of your pet (cheques take 2 weeks to clear).

Should your pet require veterinary care, AQIS will contact you and arrange for a private veterinarian to visit your pet. Private veterinarians will charge you directly.



## **HEARTWORM - Dogs**

Please note that heartworm disease of dogs is endemic in Australia. Heartworm is caused by the microorganism *Dirofilaria immitis* and is spread by mosquitoes. The larvae migrate to the heart and develop into worms. No testing or treatment is required for importation into Australia. A range of drugs are available to prevent heartworm disease.

For dogs that have never been exposed to heartworm, there is a window of several months during which preventative treatment can be safely started. The occurrence of heartworm in dogs varies widely in different parts of Australia. Importers should talk to their vet about whether treatment is necessary in their area, when to commence treatment and the types of drugs that are available.

## **AUSTRALIAN PETS TRAVELLING TO SOUTH AFRICA AND RETURNING TO AUSTRALIA**

AQIS recommends that prior to export from Australia your pet is microchipped with an ISO approved chip.

We also recommend that an AQIS accredited veterinarian:

- vaccinates your pet/s against rabies and 4 weeks later,
- collects and sends a blood sample to the Australian Animal Health Laboratory (AAHL) for a rabies neutralising antibody titre test (RNATT). The RNATT report from AAHL must record your pet's microchip number and a result of greater than 0.5 IU/ml. This laboratory report should be signed and stamped by AQIS prior to the export of your pet/s.

AQIS recommends that your pet be re-vaccinated for rabies and re-RNAT tested in South Africa within 12 months of the tests being conducted in Australia. This process should be repeated at intervals of less than 1 year throughout your stay in South Africa. Your pet's microchip number must be scanned and recorded on the blood tube and the microchip number must appear on the laboratory report. RNATT's conducted in South Africa should be collected by a government approved vet and sent to a government approved lab for testing. The government approved vet should also sign and stamp all results. You should forward these documents when applying for an AQIS import permit to return to Australia.

## AQIS QUARANTINE FEES – CATS AND DOGS

The total fee for quarantine service is calculated after your pet arrives in Australia, you will be invoiced for these services. The total of the invoice is payable prior to collection of your animal/s from quarantine. AQIS will accept cash, visa, MasterCard, Amex or bankcard. Payment by cheque must be received at least 14 days prior to collecting your pet/s.

Service	Notes	Fee \$AUD
Quarantine entry	Fee is charged for each animal	\$10
Veterinary Inspection	Fee per half hour. In the majority of cases only half an hour is required. This fee is charged for each animal.	\$71
Document clearance	Fee charged for audit of your pets veterinary certificates A & B. This fee is charged for each animal.  This fee may be repeated if additional information is required.	\$27.00
Transport from the airport to the quarantine station.	Fee is charged for the first animal only. Pets picked up after 4pm or before 8am are charged at the higher rate	\$95 or \$120
Accommodation of a cat	Daily rate for the first cat - includes food and care.	\$13.55
Accommodation for each additional cat, sharing accommodation with the first cat	Daily rate for subsequent cats – includes food and care.	\$10.55
Accommodation of a dog	Daily rate for the first dog – includes food and care.	\$17.55
Accommodation for each additional dog, sharing accommodation with the first dog	Daily rate for subsequent dogs – includes food and care.	\$12.55
A dog that gives birth	\$400 for the first 7 hours or less of supervision plus \$19 for each additional hour of supervision.	\$400
Puppies less than 6 weeks old	Daily rate per pup. After the puppies are 6 weeks old they are charged at the daily rate for dogs.	\$5
A cat that gives birth	Fee for supervision of birthing cat.  Kittens are not charged for until they are over 6 weeks old. After the kittens are 6 weeks old they are charged at the daily rate for cats.	\$300
Any additional veterinary care	Additional veterinary care eg booster vaccinations are provided by a private veterinarian.	Charged to the owner by private veterinarian.

## **AQIS APPROVED COUNTRIES**

### **APPROVED RABIES-FREE COUNTRIES AND TERRITORIES REQUIRING NO QUARANTINE**

Cocos (Keeling) Islands, New Zealand, Norfolk Island.

### **APPROVED RABIES-FREE COUNTRIES AND TERRITORIES - MINIMUM OF 30 DAYS QUARANTINE (Information sheet 2)**

Bahrain, Barbados, Cyprus, Falkland Islands, Fiji, French Polynesia, Guam, Hawaii, Iceland, the Republic of Ireland, Japan, Malta, Mauritius, New Caledonia, Norway, Singapore, Sweden, Taiwan, the United Kingdom, Vanuatu.

### **APPROVED RABIES-FREE ISLAND COUNTRIES AND TERRITORIES - MINIMUM OF 60 DAYS QUARANTINE (Information sheet 3)**

American Samoa, Federated States of Micronesia, Kiribati, Papua New Guinea, Solomon Islands, Wallis and Futuna, Western Samoa.

### **APPROVED RABIES-FREE ISLAND COUNTRIES AND TERRITORIES WHICH MAY NOT HAVE AN OFFICIAL VETERINARY SERVICE - MINIMUM OF 60 DAYS QUARANTINE (Information sheet 3)**

Christmas Island, Cook Islands, Kingdom of Tonga, Nauru, Niue, Palau, Tuvalu.

### **APPROVED COUNTRIES AND TERRITORIES RECOGNISED BY THE AUSTRALIAN GOVERNMENT AS COUNTRIES AND TERRITORIES IN WHICH DOG-MEDIATED RABIES IS ABSENT OR WELL CONTROLLED - MINIMUM OF 30 DAYS QUARANTINE & RABIES VACCINATION (Information sheet 4)**

Antigua and Barbuda, Argentina, Austria, Bahamas, Belgium, Bermuda, British Virgin Islands, Brunei, Bulgaria, Canada, Cayman islands, Chile, Croatia, Czech Republic, Denmark, France, Finland, Germany, Greece, Greenland, Hong Kong, Hungary, Israel, Italy, Jamaica, Kuwait, Luxembourg, Macau, Peninsular Malaysia, Monaco, Montenegro and Serbia, Netherlands, Netherlands-Antilles and Aruba, Poland, Portugal, Puerto Rico, Qatar, Reunion, Sabah, Saipan, Sarawak, Seychelles, Slovenia, South Korea, Spain, St Kitts and Nevis, St Lucia, St Vincent Grenadin, Switzerland (including Liechtenstein), Trinidad and Tobago, United Arab Emirates, United States of America (not including Hawaii), US Virgin Islands, Uruguay.

### **APPROVED COUNTRIES AND TERRITORIES RECOGNISED BY THE AUSTRALIAN GOVERNMENT AS COUNTRIES AND TERRITORIES IN WHICH DOG-MEDIATED RABIES IS ENDEMIC (Information sheet 5)**

Republic of South Africa

Importation of dogs and cats from non-approved countries can only occur indirectly via an approved country where the animal must be continuously resident for at least the six months immediately prior to export to Australia. The animal is then eligible for import under the conditions that apply to that approved country.



*Application for Permit to Import Cats and Dogs into  
 Australia*  
 COMMONWEALTH QUARANTINE ACT 1908, Section 13

Please complete this checklist prior to forwarding your application to AQIS, to ensure all information is completed correctly.

<p><b>Importer Details</b> - Person who is responsible for release of the animal from Quarantine.          Must be an Australian Address including an Australian phone contact number. Can be owner or owner's representative eg. c/- relative, friend or workplace.          A PO BOX Address or TO BE ADVISED is not acceptable.</p>	<input type="checkbox"/>
<p><b>Exporter Details</b> - Person in country of export responsible for preparing the animal for export.          Contact phone number and/ or email address must be provided.</p>	<input type="checkbox"/>
<p><b>Description of Animal</b> (each animal requires a separate animal details page to be submitted)</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Animals Name - The name the animal will respond to.</li> <li>• Microchip number</li> <li>• Age or Date of Birth</li> <li>• Sex</li> <li>• Breed</li> <li>• Veterinary health/medication requirements</li> </ul>	<input type="checkbox"/>
<p><b>Country of Export</b> – Country where the animal has been living for the 6 months directly prior to export to Australia.</p>	<input type="checkbox"/>
<p><b>Quarantine Accommodation</b> - Specify the preference of the quarantine station to accommodate your pet. Please be aware of the availability restrictions at the stations.</p>	<input type="checkbox"/>
<p><b>Animals sharing quarantine accommodation</b> - Please complete if you wish your animal to share kennels with another animal owned by you. <b>NB:</b> Animals must be from the same importer and exporter.</p>	<input type="checkbox"/>
<p><b>Permit Delivery Preference</b> – Provide a single fax number or address to which the approved permit is to be sent. Permits are unable to be emailed.</p>	<input type="checkbox"/>
<p><b>Payment of Application Fee</b> - Payment must be included as either cheque or by credit card payment form.</p>	<input type="checkbox"/>
<p><b>Rabies Vaccination and Rabies Neutralising Antibody Titre Test Declaration (RNATT)</b> - Must be completed for Category 4 and 5 countries. This form must be signed and stamped by an Official Veterinarian in the country of export, <b>NOT</b> a government approved veterinarian.</p> <p><b>RNATT laboratory report</b> – From a government approved laboratory, with the microchip number consistent with the Rabies Vaccination and Rabies Neutralising Antibody Titre Test Declaration (RNATT) and the application.</p>	<input type="checkbox"/>
<p>The completed application should be posted or faxed to AQIS - Live Animal Imports in Canberra. Please submit your application <b>only once either</b> by fax, post or email.</p>	<input type="checkbox"/>



*Application for Permit to Import Cats and Dogs into  
Australia*  
COMMONWEALTH QUARANTINE ACT 1908, Section 13

**AVAILABILITY OF SPACE FOR CATS AND DOGS AT  
ANIMAL QUARANTINE STATIONS**

The Australian Quarantine and Inspection Service (AQIS) wishes to advise that **all Australian animal quarantine stations are at full capacity and all stations are fully booked for several months.**

People wishing to have their pets accommodated at an Australian animal quarantine station should apply for an import permit **at least 5 months in advance** of anticipated departure.

An import permit does not guarantee a space at an animal quarantine station.

**BOOKINGS MUST BE MADE FOR YOUR PET/S.**

To book a space at an Australian animal quarantine station, a permit number is required. Once an import permit has been issued for your pet/s and you have a permit number, contact the relevant animal quarantine station to make a reservation. **Please note the waiting time can be at least 5 months.**

Provision of an airway bill number to the animal quarantine station will be required to confirm your pet/s reservation closer to the time of departure.

The most current information including [approved country lists](#) can be obtained via the Internet at [www.aqis.gov.au](http://www.aqis.gov.au) or by e-mail at [animalimp@aqis.gov.au](mailto:animalimp@aqis.gov.au)

- Please complete one form for each cat or dog.
- The application fees are \$280 for the first animal, plus \$60.00 for each additional animal.

Total number of cats and dogs	Application fee for import permit (AUD)
One	\$280
Two	\$340
Three	\$400
Four	\$460
Five	\$520

- Please include your payment with the application.
- If sending a cheque, your application should be posted. If paying by credit card you may post fax or scan and email your application. Cheques are payable to the "Collector of Public Monies-AQIS" - Amex, Visa, Mastercard and Bankcard are accepted.



Australian Government  
Australian Quarantine and  
Inspection Service

*Application for Permit to Import Cats and Dogs into  
Australia*  
COMMONWEALTH QUARANTINE ACT 1908, Section 13

- The completed application should be posted or faxed to AQIS - Live Animal Imports in Canberra.

<b>AQIS - Live Animal Imports</b> GPO Box 858 Canberra 2601 Australia	<b>Fax</b> 61 2 6272 3110 <b>Phone</b> 61 2 6272 4454	<b>Email:</b> animalimp@aqis.gov.au
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- AQIS will post or fax the import permit/s (including veterinary certificates A and B) to a single address or fax number, as requested on the application,, within two weeks of receipt of the application/s. Please allow additional time for delivery by international mail.
- Pets are only eligible to travel to Australia with a valid AQIS import permit and when all conditions provided on the AQIS import permit have been met.
- The owner/importer is responsible for the payment of all quarantine fees associated with the importation and quarantine accommodation of pet/s.

**Importer and Exporter details, Animal details including microchip details, Quarantine accommodation choice and Importer declaration** must be completed by all applicants. The omission of any information will result in extended processing periods.

**The Rabies vaccination and Rabies Neutralising Antibody Titre Test (RNATT) Declaration** must only be completed if importing an animal from a category 4 or 5 country.

**An official veterinarian of the government of the exporting country must complete this form**



**Application for Permit to Import Quarantine Material**  
**COMMONWEALTH QUARANTINE ACT 1908, Section 13**

**Giving false or misleading information is a serious offence**

AQIS is collecting the information on this form to enable a quarantine assessment of the product named to be undertaken and to determine if an Import Permit may be granted. Its collection is authorised under the *Quarantine Act 1908*. Please note that the information provided in this application may be provided to other agencies as authorised/required by law. This may include (but is not restricted to): Biosecurity Australia, Product Integrity and other organisations within the Department of Agriculture, Fisheries and Forestry (DAFF); The Department of Health and Ageing (including Therapeutic Goods Administration (TGA) and the Office of the Gene Technology Regulator (OGTR) for the purpose of ensuring compliance with the Gene Technology Act 2000); Food Standards Australia New Zealand (FSANZ); Australian Pesticides and Veterinary Medicines Authority (APVMA); Department of the Environment and Heritage; Australian Federal Police; Australian Customs Service.

**Application to Import Cats and Dogs**

**Importer details**

<b>Title</b>	<b>Given name(s)</b>	<b>Surname</b>	
<input type="text"/>	<input type="text"/>	<input type="text"/>	
<b>Company name</b>	<b>ABN or ACN (companies only)</b>	<b>Attention/Contact person</b>	
<input type="text"/>	<input type="text"/>	<input type="text"/>	
<b>Address line 1</b>			
<input type="text"/>			
<b>Address line 2</b>			
<input type="text"/>			
<b>Address line 3</b>			
<input type="text"/>			
<b>Suburb</b>	<b>State/Territory</b>	<b>Postcode</b>	
<input type="text"/>	<input type="text"/>	<input type="text"/>	
<b>Country</b>	<b>Email</b>		
<input type="text" value="Australia"/>	<input type="text"/>		
<b>Work phone</b>	<b>Home phone</b>	<b>Fax</b>	<b>Mobile</b>
<input type="text"/>	<input type="text"/>	<input type="text"/>	<input type="text"/>

**Exporter details**

<b>Title</b>	<b>Given name(s)</b>	<b>Surname</b>	
<input type="text"/>	<input type="text"/>	<input type="text"/>	
<b>Company name (companies only)</b>	<b>Attention/Contact person</b>		
<input type="text"/>	<input type="text"/>		
<b>Address line 1</b>			
<input type="text"/>			
<b>Address line 2</b>			
<input type="text"/>			
<b>Address line 3</b>			
<input type="text"/>			
<b>Suburb</b>	<b>State/Territory/Province</b>	<b>Postcode</b>	
<input type="text"/>	<input type="text"/>	<input type="text"/>	
<b>Country</b>	<b>Email</b>		
<input type="text"/>	<input type="text"/>		
<b>Work phone</b>	<b>Home phone</b>	<b>Fax</b>	<b>Mobile</b>
<input type="text"/>	<input type="text"/>	<input type="text"/>	<input type="text"/>

## APPLICATION TO IMPORT CATS AND DOGS

### Animal details

**Animal name**  **Age or date of birth (dd/mm/yyyy)**

**Species**     Cat                       Dog

**Breed** (if mixed breed animals, indicate the breed/s which the animal most closely resembles):

**Sex**             Male (entire)     Female (entire)     Male desexed     Female desexed

**If female (entire), will the animal be pregnant on arrival in Australia?**             Yes     No

**If 'Yes', please provide the expected date of birth (dd/mm/yyyy):**           

**Does your pet have any ongoing veterinary problems or require any medication?**             Yes     No

**If 'Yes', please provide details:**

### Microchip details

AQIS cannot issue an Import Permit until this information is provided.  
 Note: this information is not required for animals from Norfolk Island.

**Microchip number** (length may vary)

**Microchip type**  
 Avid     Destron     Trovan     Other ISO compatible:

### Other details

**Country of export:**

**Australian port of arrival:**

### Quarantine accommodation (post-arrival)

**Please indicate the AQIS quarantine station that will provide accommodation (if required):**  
 Eastern Creek – Sydney NSW     Spotswood – Melbourne VIC     Byford – Perth WA

Please answer the following question if you are intending to import more than one animal.  
 Shared accommodation will only be granted for a maximum of two animals of the same species.

**Would you like this animal to share quarantine accommodation with another animal owned by you?**  
 Yes     No

**If 'Yes', please provide details**  
 (name, microchip number of other animal, separate details page must be submitted for each animal):

Name:   
 Microchip number:

### Approved Import Permit

**Do you require an approved Import Permit to be faxed or posted to you? Please select only one option. Where multiple options are selected AQIS will forward the permit by mail to the exporter**

<b>Post</b> <input type="checkbox"/> Importer <input type="checkbox"/> Exporter	<b>Fax.</b> <input type="checkbox"/> Importer <input type="checkbox"/> Exporter
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### Importer declaration

I declare that this animal is not a Pitbull Terrier or American Pitbull Terrier or Fila Brasileiro or Dogo Argentino or Japanese Tosa or Presa Canaria. Also, the animal is not a domestic animal hybrid such as a wolf or bengal cat having any pure-bred ancestor less than 5<sup>th</sup> generations away.  
 I declare that to the best of my knowledge and belief all the above information is true and correct.

**Signature**

**Name**  **Date (dd/mm/yyyy)**

**Please confirm you have attached payment details:**     Credit Card Payment Form     Cheque





Australian Government  
 Australian Quarantine and  
 Inspection Service

***Rabies Vaccination and Rabies Neutralising Antibody  
 Titre Test Declaration  
 (RNATT)***

**Giving false or misleading information is a serious offence**

AQIS is collecting the information on this form to enable a quarantine assessment of the product named to be undertaken and to determine if an Import Permit may be granted. Its collection is authorised under the *Quarantine Act 1908*. Please note that the information provided in this application may be provided to other agencies as authorised/required by law. This may include (but is not restricted to): Biosecurity Australia, Product Integrity and other organisations within the Department of Agriculture, Fisheries and Forestry (DAFF); The Department of Health and Ageing (including Therapeutic Goods Administration (TGA) and the Office of the Gene Technology Regulator (OGTR) for the purpose of ensuring compliance with the Gene Technology Act 2000); Food Standards Australia New Zealand (FSANZ); Australian Pesticides and Veterinary Medicines Authority (APVMA); Department of the Environment and Heritage; Australian Federal Police; Australian Customs Service.

**Official Veterinarian declaration**

*The RNATT Declaration must be completed when importing animals from a category 4 or 5 country. The declaration must be completed, signed and stamped by an Official Veterinarian of the Government of the exporting country. An Import Permit will not be issued if any part of this declaration is blank.*

I, \_\_\_\_\_ (Name of Official Veterinarian),  
 employed by \_\_\_\_\_  
 \_\_\_\_\_ (Address of Official Veterinarian)

declare that I have sighted the rabies vaccination certificate and the RNATT report.

The date of the last rabies vaccination is recorded as: \_\_\_\_\_ (day/month/year).

The animal's age at the last rabies vaccination was: \_\_\_\_\_

The laboratory reporting the RNATT is government-approved:  **Yes**

Name of government-approved laboratory: \_\_\_\_\_

Address of government-approved laboratory: \_\_\_\_\_

The microchip number that appears on the RNATT report is: \_\_\_\_\_

Blood samples taken for RNATT were drawn on: \_\_\_\_\_ (day/month/year)

The RNATT result is recorded as: \_\_\_\_\_ International Units/mL in animal's serum

**Note: the RNATT result must be at least 0.5IU/mL**

**Signature of Official Veterinarian**

**Date Signed**  
 (day/month/year)

**Government stamp of Exporting Country**

Note: Faxed applications must bear the ink of the Government stamp rather than a raised seal

Prior to forwarding to AQIS, please ensure that this document is:

- signed and stamped by an Official Veterinarian of the government of the country of export	<input type="checkbox"/> Yes
- accompanied by an application to import cats and/or dogs (including disability assistance dogs)	<input type="checkbox"/> Yes
- accompanied by a copy of the RNATT laboratory report	<input type="checkbox"/> Yes



**Australian Government**  
**Department of Agriculture,**  
**Fisheries and Forestry**  
Australian Quarantine and  
Inspection Service

## *Information Sheet 5*

*Cats and dogs from the Republic of South Africa*

### **Information**

Australian Quarantine and Inspection Service ('AQIS') veterinarians examine your animals for signs of exotic diseases soon after their arrival and just before their release from quarantine. In checking for exotic diseases they also rely on the constant observations of the experienced and trained kennel staff caring for your animal while it is in quarantine.

AQIS veterinarians, who normally only visit the Quarantine Station twice per week, **do not attend or treat animals for any other conditions.**

If concerns arise as to your animal's health which relate to a non-exotic disease, these must be dealt with by a private veterinarian.

The Quarantine Station's policy is one of seeking the early advice and prompt attendance of a private veterinarian rather than wait until a major problem develops.

If staff believes attendance by a private veterinarian is desirable for the health and welfare of your animal, they will try to contact you and inform you of their decision regarding veterinary consultation. However, there may be occasions when staffs are not able to contact you.

The costs of attendances and treatments by private veterinarians are **not part of the AQIS cost** for quarantine. They are an additional cost to be borne by you. You will be billed separately by the veterinary practice.

To enable the station to arrange for a private veterinarian to attend your animal and ensure your payment of the services of the veterinarian, please complete the authorisation overleaf.

## Authority for Private Veterinary Attendance and Treatment Declaration

### Declaration

If, in the opinion of AQIS, my animal(s) require(s) veterinary attention whilst in quarantine, I authorise AQIS to arrange attendances and any necessary treatments by a private veterinarian on my behalf.

1. I acknowledge that while AQIS will try and contact me prior to arranging any such attendances or treatment, this may not always be possible and authorise AQIS to arrange for such attendances and treatment without prior consultation with me.
2. I agree I am responsible for the payment of all costs and expenses associated with attendances and treatment by a private veterinarian and will pay all fees due to the private veterinarian prior to the release of my animal(s) from the Quarantine Station.
3. I agree to indemnify AQIS against all expenses, losses, damages and costs (on a solicitor and our client basis and whether incurred by or awarded against AQIS) that AQIS may sustain or incur as a result, whether directly or indirectly, of the attendance and treatment of my animal(s) by a private veterinarian.
4. I agree to release AQIS from all actions, suits, claims or demands of any nature together with all costs and expenses incurred in respect thereof which I may have against AQIS arising in any way out of the attendance and treatment of my animal(s) by a private veterinarian.
5. I agree AQIS means the Commonwealth of Australia (Commonwealth), as represented by the Australian Quarantine and Inspection Service and includes officers, employees and agents of the Commonwealth.

<b>Title</b>	<b>Given name(s)</b>	<b>Surname</b>	
<input type="text"/>	<input type="text"/>	<input type="text"/>	
<b>Address</b>			
<input type="text"/>			
<b>Suburb</b>	<b>State/Territory</b>	<b>Postcode</b>	
<input type="text"/>	<input type="text"/>	<input type="text"/>	
<b>Work phone</b>	<b>Home phone</b>	<b>Fax</b>	<b>Mobile</b>
<input type="text"/>	<input type="text"/>	<input type="text"/>	<input type="text"/>
<b>Animal name(s)</b>	<b>Relationship to Animal(s) (e.g. owner)</b>		
<input type="text"/>	<input type="text"/>		
<b>Name, address and contact details of my preferred private veterinary practice/veterinarian</b> (Please leave blank if you do not have one, and AQIS will arrange a local veterinarian)			
<input type="text"/>			
<b>Signature</b>	<b>Date (dd/mm/yyyy)</b>		
<input type="text"/>	<input type="text"/>		





Australian Government  
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## Credit Card Payment Form

Application for Permit to Import Quarantine Material

**Giving false or misleading information is a serious offence**

### Credit card payment information

Fees and Charges information is located in the Import section of the AQIS website: [www.aqis.gov.au/import](http://www.aqis.gov.au/import)

### Payment details

#### Amount paid

AUD\$

#### Credit card type

Bankcard

MasterCard

Visa

American Express

#### Credit card number

--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--

#### Card expiry date

#### Name (as it appears on the card)

#### Cardholder's signature

**Date** (dd/mm/yyyy)