

Pet Import Checklist

Please follow **each step in the order as listed below**.

- **MICROCHIP** – All animals to be imported into St. Kitts and Nevis must be identified with an ISO compatible electronic microchip implant (e.g., AVID[®], Home Again, etc.). The microchip number must be included on all relevant documents including written application form, health certificates, blood samples submitted for rabies testing and on the result of the rabies titer.
- **RABIES VACCINE** – Rabies Vaccine must be up-to-date/current. 1 year or 3-year vaccines are acceptable. Rabies vaccines given to pets less than 3 months of age are not considered valid by St. Kitts and Nevis. The vaccine given **must be an approved monovalent killed rabies vaccine. IF NOT current on Rabies vaccine**, give booster NOW, then wait 30 days, then draw the titer. The most recent Rabies vaccination certificate must be submitted.

CORE AND RABIES VACCINATION CERTIFICATE - Animals should be fully vaccinated with the core vaccines and the most recent Rabies vaccination certificate must be submitted.

1 TITER IS REQUIRED:

- **TITER** – For Cats and Dogs - The Rabies titer must be taken no less than 30 days after the most recent rabies vaccination and **no less than three months before its expiration**. Once the Rabies vaccine is current, draw the certified Rabies/RFFIT/or FAVN lab titer. Titer results must be 0.5 I.U./ml or greater from an OIE (World Animal Health Organization).

If titer result is negative, a booster vaccine must be given, and the titer repeated in 30 days.

To be considered valid, the Rabies titer result must include the number of the implanted microchip and complete description of the animal (age, sex, breed, color or color pattern, etc.).

The testing laboratory must submit the test results directly to the St. Kitts CVO's Office – skbvet12@gmail.com . Clinics or Laboratories which submit samples to the approved listed laboratories, the original report must be submitted of attached to the clinics report.

Titers must be sent to:

Auburn University:

**Virology Laboratory
Department of Pathobiology
College of Veterinary Medicine
Auburn University**

Alabama
36849-5519
Phone: 334-844-2652
Fax: 334-844-2653
Hours: 8: AM - 5:00PM CST, Monday - Friday
Email: mincjoa@auburn.edu
Website: <http://www.vetmed.auburn.edu/academic-departments/dept-of-pathobiology/diagnostic-services/>

Cost: RFFIT – \$42, FAVN – \$65 per titer. **Turnaround Time** 7-10 days.

OR

Kansas State:

Rabies Laboratory
Kansas State Veterinary Diagnostic Laboratory (KSVDL)
Kansas State University 2005 Research Park Circle
Manhattan, KS 66502
Phone: 785-532-4483
Fax: 758-532-4474
Hours: 8:00AM - 5:00PM
Email: rabies@vet.ksu.edu
Website: <http://www.ksvdl.org/rabies-laboratory/>

Cost: **ONLY** FAVN - \$90 – **Turnaround Time:** 3-4 weeks.

Auburn University OR Kansas State Testing Labs will forward the results directly to the CVO's Office in St. Kitts - skbv12@gmail.com

- **If outside of the U.S.A or Canada; any OIE certified laboratory is acceptable.**

Please follow-up with the CVO's Office on a regular basis to ensure that your pet's titer results have been received.

- FLIGHT** - Book flights for you and your pet(s) NOW.
- PET IMPORT APPLICATION FORM** – [Pet Import Application Form](#) - print and complete the form. Be sure to include the St. Kitts arrival flight information so that the Vet can meet you at the airport in St. Kitts. The Street address on the form is referring to your current home address.
- PET IMPORT FEE** – The pet import application processing fee is US\$20 or EC\$55 (per animal). **Form of payment** - **International Money Order ONLY if you live abroad. If on island** – local EC check, EC cash or US cash will suffice. If an international money order cannot be obtained, the fee will be collected at the St. Kitts airport (on arrival).

Mail the completed pet import application form and fee(s) after the titer has been drawn to the CVO's Office in St. Kitts:

Ministry of Agriculture – St. Kitts

Dr. Kofi Sylvester
Chief Veterinary Officer
P. O. Box 39,
Veterinary Services,
Department of Agriculture,
Basseterre,
St. Kitts, West Indies.
Telephone: 1-869-465-2110 Fax: 1-869-465-2928
Skbvvet12@gmail.com



Directions if you are on island:

From the direction of RUSVM: drive past the Best Buy Supermarket, past the Movies, past the General Hospital and the two small petrol stations until you come to the crossroad immediately before the cemetery. At the crossroad, make a left and drive up the road along the top of the cemetery to the top of the road. Make the immediate left at the top of the cemetery and drive down the road to the 1st left. Drive up the road a few yards to 1st entrance with the green building on your right.

If the result of the titer is negative, a booster vaccine must be given, and the titer repeated again in 30 days.

Auburn University OR Kansas State Testing Labs will forward the results directly to the CVO's Office in St. Kitts.

- **FELV and FIV TESTS** – ONLY for Cats. Cats must be tested within 30 days of cat's travel date. The test result must be negative. Fax the results to the CVO in St. Kitts: 1-869-465-2928.
- **EXPORT HEALTH DOCUMENT** – within 30 days of your pet's travel date obtain a health certificate issued by a Veterinary Authority or Government Veterinarian (**U.S.A.** – U.S.D.A. Export Health Certificate. **Canada** – International health Certificate for Dogs & Cats. This certificate can be obtained from the Ministry of Agriculture in your state or the state you will be leaving from. Click on this link to find the listing of USDA Offices by State. http://www.aphis.usda.gov/animal_health/area_offices/ .

The certificate must include:

1. A full description of the animal including implanted microchip number.
2. Record of the core and current rabies vaccination including name and type of vaccine, lot/serial number and expiration date.

3. Records of the last two rabies vaccination including name and type of vaccine, lot/serial number and expiration date.
4. Record of internal/ external parasite treatment within five (5) days of arrival and the name of the anthelmintic used.
5. A statement certifying that to the best of my knowledge the animal(s):
 - a. has been in the country for the past six months
 - b. appears to be free of any infections or contagious diseases or exposure thereto which would endanger the animal or other animals or would endanger public health.
 - c. To the best of my knowledge the animal(s) originated from an area not quarantined for Rabies and have not been exposed to Rabies.
 - d. The seal or stamp of the exporting country for international travel must be on the document.

Travel to St. Kitts with the USDA document.

Please fax the top sheet of the export health document to the CVO's Office in St. Kitts - 1-869-465-2928. The Pet Import Permit will not be granted without this document.

- **PET IMPORT PERMIT** – the Pet Import Permit will be issued by the CVO in St. Kitts within 10 days of receiving all required documents: Import application form, titer result, the FELV/FIV result (if you have a cat) and the USDA faxed document. The permit will be scanned and emailed to you. **Print the permit and travel with it to St. Kitts. DO NOT TRAVEL TO ST. KITTS WITH YOUR PET WITHOUT THE PET IMPORT PERMIT.**
- **SCIENCE DIET FOOD** - If your pet is on a special diet or if you prefer **Science Diet** meals for your pet check with the RUSVM campus store <https://www.facebook.com/Hills-RUSVM-463710093697243/> , before arriving on island, to confirm that they carry your pet's food.

If your pet's prescription food is not carried in our RUSVM store, please make arrangements to ship a supply for the semester.

- **DEWORMING** - Within 5 days of the animal's travel date, obtain from an accredited veterinarian, a Health Certificate outlining that an internal/external Broad Spectrum Anthelmintic parasite treatment has been administered. Record name of the Anthelmintic used.

The treatment can be topical preventatives plus Panacur, Flagyl, etc. However just using Advantage Multi or Sentinel will not require added Panacur or Flagyl. **The accredited Vet must record this treatment on the health certificate mentioned below.**

- **HEALTH CERTIFICATE** – a statement prepared by the pet's Vet. certifying that to the best of their knowledge, the animal(s):
 1. has been in the country for the past six months

2. appears to be free of any infectious or contagious diseases or exposure to which would endanger the animal or other animals or would endanger public health.

The Vet must also include the deworming details on this certificate. Always check vaccine dates and animal history to make sure they correlate with what is on this health certificate. **Present this health certificate to the Vet at the airport in St. Kitts.**

FLIGHT TIPS

Traveling with a service pet

- **AA** - <https://www.aa.com/i18n/travel-info/special-assistance/service-animals.jsp>
- **United Airlines** - https://www.united.com/web/en-US/content/travel/specialneeds/disabilities/assistance_animals.aspx
- **Medical or Emotional Support Pets** - <https://www.aa.com/i18n/travel-info/special-assistance/service-animals.jsp>

Hot & Cold Restrictions

- You cannot travel with a pet if the current or forecasted temperature is above 85 degrees Fahrenheit (29.4 degrees C) at any location on the itinerary.
- You cannot travel with a pet if the ground temperature is below 45 degrees Fahrenheit (7.2 degrees C) at any location on the itinerary.

When booking a flight

- Avoid booking an Emergency Exit seat. You will be asked to relocate.
- When you confirm with your airline, they will give you a New Record Locator Number for travelling with pets.

Multiple Animals:

- Two cats under 20lbs total can travel in the same carrier.
- Your medical or emotional service pet DOES NOT count as a carry-on item but DOES count as a pet.
- You can carry two cats in a carrier and a dog plus a personal bag as your three carry-on items.

AT THE ST. KITTS AIRPORT

- US\$50 (airport inspection fee) per pet arriving during the week between 8am and 4pm.
- US\$60 (airport inspection fee) per pet arriving **after** 4pm and on weekends.
- US\$70 (airport inspection fee) per pet arriving on holidays.
- US\$40 (for all three confinement visits).
- More than one pet in home confinement – add US\$10 per additional pet.
- Have in hand the Health Certificate and the Pet Import Permit to show the Vet at the airport.
- **Service Animals** – have in hand documentation showing that your pet is a service animal in order to have **him/her in the baggage hall on a leash but not crated.**

QUARANTINE

- ❑ After inspection at the port of entry, dogs and cats must not be removed from carrier/crate until arrival at the place of confinement.
- ❑ 14-day **home confinement** is mandatory.
- ❑ Three home visits will be required.
- ❑ Dogs must be kept on approved premises: completely fenced and secured.
- ❑ Cats must be always kept in-doors and all windows and doors must be screened.
- ❑ Dog and cat must not come into contact with any other animal during confinement.
- ❑ Dog and cat must not be removed from the premises without permission of the Veterinary Authority. Permission will be granted for Veterinary emergencies. The animal must remain on the premises for the duration of the confinement.
- ❑ Confinement completion certificate to be issued at end of confinement.

***** Quarantine violations will result in deportation of your pet.**

PROHIBITED DOG BREEDS

The following breeds of dogs or dogs mixed with these breeds are not allowed to enter St. Kitts and Nevis:

- ❑ Pit Bull Terrier
- ❑ Staffordshire Terrier
- ❑ Dogo Argentino
- ❑ Presa Canario
- ❑ Fila Brasileiro
- ❑ Japanese Tosa
- ❑ American Bull dog

PROHIBITED PETS

Pet rodents and rabbits pose a biosafety risk to rodent species used in teaching and research at RUSVM. Consequently, students and colleagues working with these rodents are prohibited from housing (on and off campus) and caring for pet rodents (e.g. mice/rats/hamsters/guinea pigs) and rabbits. Students who choose to keep pet rodents or rabbits will limit several aspects of their 4th semester lab experience.

Failure to comply with the importation requirements above will result in delayed entry or deportation of pet(s).