

MEMO
Subject: **Accepting dogs to the USA**
New CDC requirements effective August 1st

REG No: 15/ONPS/2024

Rev: 1.0

EFFECTIVE DATE: 01.08.2024

TO: Ground Service Providers & Station Managers
FROM: Ground Operations Bureau
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SUBJECT: Accepting dogs to the USA from August 1st

Revision list:

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1.0	01.08.2024	New document


Risk acceptance:

CURRENT RISK INDEX <u>before</u> change	PROJECTED RISK INDEX <u>after</u> change	ACCEPTANCE AUTHORITY (includes acceptance of Risk)	
CRITICAL	CRITICAL	Name	Sebastian Jadczyk
SERIOUS	SERIOUS	Position	Ground Operation Nominated Person
MODERATE	MODERATE	Signature	e-mail approval
LOW	LOW	Date	31.07.2024

Approval notice:

	Name	Function	Date
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Source: CDC requirements for Bringing a Dog into the U.S. from August 1, 2024

	MEMO Subject: Accepting dogs to the USA New CDC requirements effective August 1 st	REG No: 15/ONPS/2024 Rev: 1.0
		EFFECTIVE DATE: 01.08.2024

Dear Ground Service Providers,

Due to the new CDC regulations on bringing dogs **into the USA from August 1st**, we are now enforcing a mandatory procedure for accepting dogs traveling **as carry-on baggage in the cabin (PETC), in the cargo hold (AVIH) and as service dogs (SVAN)**. Please read and adhere to the procedure strictly. Compliance is required for all travelers.

1. ALL dogs (PETC, AVIH, SVAN) traveling to the USA by air must:

- appear healthy,
- be at least 6 months old,
- be microchipped,
- possess confirmation of the necessary rabies vaccinations,
- be accompanied by a **CDC Dog Import Form receipt**. → While this form is a requirement for all dogs, importers of dogs from high-risk countries must complete more questions and upload a photo of their dog.

2. The general requirements have been refined by the CDC into three categories of dogs according to the country of origin:

Dog Category	Required Documents for Entry	Validity of Documents	Possible POEs
Dog rabies-free or low-risk country (regardless of vaccination status)	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • CDC Dog Import Form receipt ONLY. This is the short version of the receipt with only a few questions. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • CDC Dog Import Form receipt: Multiple entries for up to 6 months from date of issuance. 	Any POE (air, land, or sea, including pre-clearance ports). POE not listed on CDC Dog Import Form receipt .
U.S.-vaccinated from high-risk country	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • CDC Dog Import Form receipt. This is the long version of the receipt with more questions plus photo AND • One of the two government-endorsed veterinary documents: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Preferred: <i>Certification of U.S.-issued Rabies Vaccination form</i> • Option only available for dogs that left before July 31, 2025: USDA-endorsed export health certificate 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • CDC Dog Import Form receipt: Single entry only on date of arrival listed on receipt. • Government-endorsed veterinary document: multiple entries for 1 or 3 years, depending on rabies vaccine 	Any POE (air, land, or sea, including pre-clearance ports) as long as it matches POE on CDC Dog Import Form receipt .
Foreign-vaccinated from high-risk country	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • CDC Dog Import Form receipt. This is the long version of the receipt with more questions plus photo AND • <i>Certification of Foreign Rabies Vaccination and Microchip form</i> + a valid serology titer (not required if dog has reservation for 28-day quarantine at CDC-registered animal care facility [ACF]) AND • Reservation confirmation for a CDC-registered ACF. For LOT Polish Airlines, these will be: JFK, LAX, MIA. We do not transport dogs of this category to: EWR, ORD. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • CDC Dog Import Form receipt: Single entry only on date of arrival listed on receipt. • <i>Certification of Foreign Rabies Vaccination and Microchip form</i>: valid for 30 days from date of issuance and for single use. 	An airport with a CDC-registered ACF, as long as it matches POE on CDC Dog Import Form receipt . The flight must land and the dog must clear Customs at the port with the ACF.

- The documents must be submitted by the passenger to LOT no later than 48 hours before departure.
- **Please note that due to CDC requirements, dogs foreign-vaccinated from high-risk countries can only be accepted on flights to three airports in the USA: New York (JFK), Los Angeles (LAX) and Miami (MIA).**

3. Handling Agent at check-in counter must verify if:

- there is a confirmed **SSR code (PETC, AVIH, SVAN)** in the PNR,
- an importer of the dog possesses each required document,
- the documentation has not expired,
- the documentation is consistent across all documents if dog has multiple documents* (e.g. the description of the dog's breed, microchip number, coloring, etc., is the same across all documents),

* Dogs from dog rabies-free or low-risk countries will only have one document **the CDC Dog Import Form receipt**, and thus not have any other documents to compare against.

- dog appears healthy:

Signs of illness or injury in dogs may include:

- Not moving or not responding to stimuli (e.g., sounds, commands, owner's touch)
- Vomit, diarrhea, or blood in kennel
- Loss of balance
- Significant hair loss or rash
- A lot of mucus around eyes or nose
- Foam around the mouth
- Difficulty breathing
- Unusual behavior



Do not touch or handle a sick dog. Deny boarding if dog is not healthy.

- dog is microchipped (the agent confirms the microchip number only on the documents whether the information is consistent – the microchip code is indicated on the CDC Dog Import Form receipt and the Government-endorsed veterinary documentation),
- dog is at least 6 months old (the agent confirms the age on the documents whether the information is consistent, the agent is not obliged to assess the age of the dogs on the basis of a physical examination).

4. Handling Agent must deny boarding a dog in the event of:

- no confirmed SSR code (**PETC, AVIH or SVAN**) in the PNR,
- documents not submitted to LOT 48 hours before departure,
- missing documents,
- expired documents,
- incomplete documents,
- information in documents not matching other documents or not matching dog's appearance,
- dog appears unhealthy,
- dog is not microchipped,
- dog is younger than 6 months old,
- lack of required rabies vaccinations.