

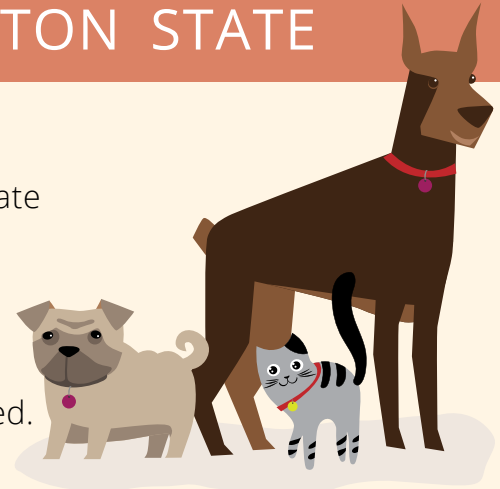


Washington
State Department of
Agriculture

WHAT TO KNOW WHEN RESCUING A PET IN WASHINGTON STATE

RULES FOR ADOPTING PETS FROM OUT OF STATE

- Travel and vaccination documents are required, including a Certificate of Veterinary Inspection or similar.
- Proof of current rabies vaccination are also required, except for dogs and cats younger than 3 months — they do not need rabies vaccinations.
- Dogs and cats from areas under quarantine for rabies are prohibited.
- Dogs 6 months and older must test negative for heartworm.
- Cats need a Certificate of Veterinary Inspection, but do not require heartworm testing.



REQUIREMENTS FOR BRINGING A DOG INTO THE US

- **Rabies vaccination:** Dogs must be vaccinated against rabies and have a valid rabies vaccine certificate (Date, expiration, veterinarian signature, pet description).
- **Microchip:** They must have a microchip that meets the ISO 11784 standard, which is a universal standard for scanning pet microchips.
- **Health certificate:** A health certificate issued by a licensed veterinarian in the country of origin is required.
- **Age:** Dogs must be at least six months old at the time of entry.
- **Documentation:** A completed CDC Dog Import Form must be submitted.
- **No high-risk rabies countries:** Dogs that have been in a high-risk rabies country within the past six months may face quarantine or additional requirements.



ESSENTIAL TIPS BEFORE YOU RESCUE

- Research pet rescue organizations.
- Know where your pet is coming from to ensure they meet import regulations and that they are healthy.
- Ask for a copy of the Certificate of Veterinary Inspection.
- Inquire about vaccinations, spay/neuter, and potential health concerns.
- Penalties of up to \$1,000 can be assessed for importing animals into Washington without valid paperwork.



**DON'T BE A VICTIM OF RECEIVING AN UNHEALTHY ANIMAL THAT
WILL RESULT IN HIGH VETERINARY CARE BILLS**