



**GOVERNMENT OF THE TURKS AND CAICOS ISLANDS
ENVIRONMENTAL HEALTH DEPARTMENT
VETERINARY AND ANIMAL CONTROL UNIT
DUNSCOMBE ALLEY, GRAND TURK
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**CONDITIONS FOR THE IMPORTATION OF DOGS AND CATS FROM
RABIES-ENDEMIC COUNTRIES**

1. Animal (s) must be accompanied by a **Health Certificate** issued by the ***Veterinary Authority** of the country of origin stating: -
 - a) The identity of the animal(s): Animals must be permanently identified with a microchip transponder or tattoo.
 - b) That the dog(s) and/or cat(s) is/are healthy and showing no signs of infectious or contagious disease.
 - c) Animal(s) is/are treated against internal and external parasites within 14 days of the scheduled date of travel. Dogs must be negative for heart worm test. *(For ticks: a preparation known to have residual action should be used, e.g. products containing fipronil, amitraz, pyrethrins and permethrins.)The following products are not acceptable: Shampoos, collars and products used for flea control only (e.g. Program®, Advantage®, Revolution® or Sentinel®)*
 - d) The information (including dates) of vaccination of dog(s) against Canine Parvovirus, Distemper, Hepatitis/Adenovirus, Parainfluenza, Leptospirosis and Lyme disease.
 - e) The information (including dates) of vaccination of cat(s) against Feline Calicivirus, Panleukopenia, Feline Rhinotracheitis and Feline Leukemia
 - f) That the area of origin is not currently under Rabies quarantine.
 - g) **That the dog(s) / cat(s) has/have had at least two rabies inactivated vaccines; the first not earlier than 3 months of age and another at least six (6) months later.**
 - h) **That four (4) months after the first and at least one (1) month after the second or subsequent vaccines, a serological test has been carried out to determine the presence of adequate virus neutralizing antibody titres, prior to departure. Animals will be permitted to enter the Islands up to twelve months after the last booster shot, subject to a positive test result**

of at least 0.5 IU/ml and must bear the animal's permanent identification number.

- i) That the dog(s) / cat(s) has/have been in the country of origin/export for at least six (6) months immediately preceding importation into the territory.
2. Animals must be clinically healthy on arrival.
3. All dog(s) and cat(s) must be spayed or neutered in order to be granted an import permit.
4. **All required conditions must be met, and all relevant documents (import permit, Veterinary Health Certificate, Vaccination Certificate, Laboratory Test results, etc.) must be submitted at the port of entry in order to facilitate Veterinary clearance. Failure to comply can result in animals being kept in a facility, deportation or euthanasia.**
5. The Veterinary Unit must be given at least 48 hrs. notice of confirmed arrival date, time, airline/vessel and port of entry. This is to avoid delays in the clearance of the animal(s) at the port of entry.
6. There is a fee of \$50.00 for each animal issued an import permit.
7. In the event that during the course of transporting the animal, it was transshipped via another country and remained there for twenty-four (24) hours and over, a veterinary certificate from the competent authority or from the quarantine Officer must be obtained stating that the said animal(s) did not leave the quarantine area, noting the period of time in quarantine and the condition of the animal.
8. Animal(s) must be kept in confinement (carrier) until granted entry into the territory. Failure to do so can result in entry being denied.

*** An Official Health Certificate is a document issued and certified by a veterinarian working full time with the Government of the country of origin (e.g. USDA, Canadian Food Inspection Agency, DEFRA, etc.). It is deemed valid for 30days after the date of issue.**

These conditions are subject to changes. Kindly ensure that you obtain an import permit for all animals you wish to bring into the Territory.