

## 42 C.F.R. § 71.51

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### Dogs and cats.

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(a) *Definitions.* As used in this section the term:

*Cat* means all domestic cats.

*Confinement* means restriction of a dog or cat to a building or other enclosure at a U.S. port, en route to destination and at destination, in isolation from other animals and from persons except for contact necessary for its care or, if the dog or cat is allowed out of the enclosure, muzzling and keeping it on a leash.

*Dog* means all domestic dogs.

*Owner* means owner or agent.

*Valid rabies vaccination certificate* means a certificate which was issued for a dog not less than 3 months of age at the time of vaccination and which:

- (1) Identifies a dog on the basis of breed, sex, age, color, markings, and other identifying information.
- (2) Specifies a date of rabies vaccination at least 30 days before the date of arrival of the dog at a U.S. port.
- (3) Specifies a date of expiration which is after the date of arrival of the dog at a U.S. port. If no date of expiration is specified, then the date of vaccination shall be no more than 12 months before the date of arrival at a U.S. port.
- (4) Bears the signature of a licensed veterinarian.

(b) *General requirements for admission of dogs and cats—(1) Inspection by Director.* The Director shall inspect all dogs and cats which arrive at a U.S. port, and admit only those dogs and cats which show no signs of communicable disease as defined in § 71.1.

(2) *Examination by veterinarian and confinement of dogs and cats.* When, upon inspection, a dog or cat does not appear to be in good health on arrival (e.g., it has symptoms such as emaciation, lesions of the skin, nervous system disturbances, jaundice, or diarrhea), the Director may require prompt confinement and give the owner an opportunity to arrange for a licensed veterinarian to examine the animal and give or arrange for any tests or treatment indicated. The Director will consider the findings of the examination and tests in determining whether or not the dog or cat may have a communicable disease. The owner shall bear the expense of the examination, tests, and treatment. When it is necessary to detain a dog or cat pending determination of its admissibility, the owner shall provide confinement facilities which in the judgment of the Director will afford protection against any communicable disease. The owner shall bear the expense of confinement. Confinement shall be subject to conditions specified by the Director to protect the public health.

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