

Pets

While active duty and family members are working on the overseas screening, you should also begin the required screening on any pets transferring with you. This is a time consuming process and how long your pets are quarantined on Guam depends on preparation. Links below will provide you with the required information for pets coming to Guam and quarantine regulations.

Guam is rabies free. Guam's quarantine law is designed to protect residents and pets from the devastating problems associated with the spread of rabies. Success of the quarantine program is dependent on maintaining isolation of your pet from other animals during any required quarantine period.

Title 10 Guam Code Annotated Chapter 34 Article 3 governs importation of dogs, cats and other carnivores into Guam. This law states that these animals are required to complete a 120-day confinement in an approved Commercial Quarantine Facility. If specific pre-arrival and post-arrival requirements are met, animals may qualify for a shorter quarantine.

EXEMPTIONS

Animals originating from the British Isles, Australia, New Zealand, Japan, and Hawaii on direct flights to Guam may be exempt from quarantine requirements after meeting shipping and veterinary examination requirements.

Users of service dogs belonging to a Federal or State Government Agency, and guide dogs may wish to have their animals qualified to allow them to enter Guam without being held in quarantine at the Commercial Quarantine Facility. Please contact this department for more information.

All dogs and cats, regardless of purpose or health status, are required to comply with Guam's quarantine law. Other vertebrates, such as skunks, wolves, raccoons, ferrets, etc. are not covered by this discussion and are generally prohibited entry into Guam.

DETERMINE IF YOUR PET SHOULD MOVE TO GUAM

Guam is a tropical island with high temperatures and humidity throughout the year. The Department recommends that pets that are very old, very young (not less than 9 weeks if coming from exempt areas), chronically ill or debilitated, or pets that experience difficulty in hot climates, not be imported into Guam. Pregnant animals past 45 days of gestation, are prohibited entry into quarantine.

PRE-ARRIVAL STEPS COMMON TO ALL PETS

For all quarantine programs, you must comply with each requirement and submit copies containing the veterinarian's printed and signed name on each document. Copies must be provided in English or with English translation.

The owner, consignee, handler, or carrier shall pay all applicable expenses. This might include private veterinary examinations, vaccinations, microchip implantation,

hospitalization, testing, medication, treatment, transportation and returned shipments to shipper or consignor for animals failing to meet pre-arrival requirements.

APPLICATION FOR ENTRY PERMIT – Pet owners or their authorized representative(s) (authorization letter must accompany application) are responsible for submitting a completed application with the payment of a non-refundable fee of **Sixty Dollars (\$60.00)** per animal permit, **\$5.00** per pet license per licensed year. Money orders or certified checks should be made payable to “**Treasurer of Guam**”. Please do not send cash. Puppies and kittens must be **at least nine (9) weeks of age** prior to any request for an entry permit. If an animal produces a litter while in quarantine, the offspring shall remain with the mother for the duration of her quarantine period, and additional fees may be charged by the commercial quarantine facility.

VACCINATIONS – All dogs and cats entering Guam are required to be vaccinated against rabies and other common infectious diseases prior to release on Guam. This also applies to animals arriving from exempt areas. These vaccinations are best completed prior to arrival. A document attesting to the administering of the vaccinations must include the name and address of the pet owner, name and description of the animal (indicating its age, sex, breed, color, body weight, and markings), dates of vaccinations, (rabies certificates must include: manufacturer, serial/lot number, expiration date of the vaccine) and certified with the name and legible signature and address of the veterinarian who administered the vaccinations.

Health Certificates or other documents cannot be substituted for the actual Rabies Vaccination Certificates (copies are acceptable). For the other required vaccinations, the attending veterinarian must sign a letter or other document that details the date and types of vaccinations administered.

Your pet requires certification of current rabies vaccination with an approved monovalent inactivated rabies vaccine administered not more than 365 days prior to the animal’s release from quarantine on Guam (18 months if vaccinated with an approved 3-year vaccine). **Do not vaccinate your pet for rabies after blood is drawn for the FAVN test (if performed). Also, the use of a modified live rabies vaccine is strongly discouraged and can require quarantine periods for as long as six months after that vaccination.**

Any subsequent rabies vaccination shall be administered not less than 30 days following the first vaccination and not more than 365 days (36 months with an approved 3-year vaccine prior to release on Guam. All animals must have completed at least two rabies vaccinations prior to release from commercial quarantine.

Other Dog Vaccinations – Dogs shall be vaccinated not less than 10 days and not more than 365 days prior to arrival against:

- Canine Distemper Virus;
- Canine Infectious Hepatitis Virus or Canine Adenovirus-2;
- Canine Leptospirosis;
- Canine Parainfluenza;
- Canine Parvovirus;
- Canine Bordatella bronchiseptica (kennel cough)

Other Cat Vaccinations – Cats shall be vaccinated not less than 10 days and not more than 365 days prior to arrival against:

- Feline Panleukopenia Virus (feline viral enteritis);
- Feline Viral Rhinotracheitis (feline herpesvirus-1);
- Feline Calicivirus

AFFIDAVIT FOR EXPORT – Pet owners with animals originating directly from a designated rabies-free area must submit an affidavit for export or certificate of origin. The affidavit certifies that the dog or cat was not outside the area of origin during the 4-month period immediately preceding the date of shipment. In addition, the affidavit shall certify that the animal has not been vaccinated with a modified live rabies virus vaccine during the 4 months immediately prior to the date of shipment. Affidavits of this nature are generally issued by a government entity (i.e. state or national Department of Agriculture veterinarian or U.S. Army veterinarian) in the jurisdiction of origin.

QUARANTINE RESERVATION – Animals requiring quarantine on Guam must attach evidence of confirmed reservations at a government approved quarantine facility with the Entry Permit packet. It shall be the pet owner's responsibility to contact the facility directly for kennel reservation and rates.

APPROVED QUARANTINE FACILITIES

Harper Valley Kennels

377 Chalan San Antonio

Tamuning, Guam 96913

Phone: (671) 648-7387

Fax: (671) 648-8387

Website: www.harpervet.net

e-mail: harperkennels@guam.net

Available to Military Personnel Only

Andersen Animal Quarantine & Kennel Facility

Andersen Air Force Base, Guam

Phone: (671) 366-5020

Fax: (671) 366-5021

Website: to be announced

e-mail: chumporn.velte@andersen.af.mil

HEALTH CERTIFICATE – A health certificate issued by an accredited veterinarian within 10 days prior to arrival is required. (Check with the specific airline regarding their health certificate time requirements.) The health certificate must be written in English, and it must be an original document (facsimile or photocopy will be accepted for processing, however the original document shall accompany the animal). The health certificate must bear an original or stamped signature with legible name, address, and telephone number of the certifying veterinarian.

The health certificate must contain all of the following information:

- A complete description of the animal, including age, markings, sex, breed, body weight, and any additional identifying characteristics. “Mixed” or similar wording is not acceptable for breed. Please indicate the nearest approximate breed.
- Veterinarian’s statement certifying the following:
 - If determined to be so affected, the animal has been treated to remove internal (helminths and heartworms) and external parasites (fleas and ticks) within 14 days of arrival on Guam.
 - The date of any parasite treatment.
 - The name of the products used. The external treatment must use Fipronil or other long-acting product. (Revolution is not acceptable).
- Certification that the animal is free of any evidence of infectious or contagious disease (to include heartworm testing/treatment information).
- Certification by the issuing veterinarian to the accuracy of the information stated on the health certificate.
- The microchip number and the date of implantation (not required for 120-day Commercial Quarantine).
- The name, serial or lot number, expiration date of the lot, and date of rabies vaccination must appear on the health certificate.

PLANNING YOUR PET’S MOVE – HOW MUCH QUARANTINE?

1. If your pet is not coming from a country recognized by Guam as rabies-free, then your pet will have to complete 120 days of commercial quarantine on Guam. This program is detailed later in this discussion.
2. Commercial quarantine required on Guam. The entry requirements must be completed prior to arrival and the animal may be allowed to leave the airport with you. Your veterinarian can help you with the pre-arrival requirements as detailed later.
3. If your pet is coming from a non-exempt country, you still may be able to reduce the duration of commercial quarantine potentially to as little as a single day, if you have the time and the resources to meet the requirements. This is the least expensive way to bring a dog or cat to Guam. Those people who have less than 120 days of preparation time can still endeavor to minimize the commercial quarantine duration on Guam. This can result in an individualized quarantine period on Guam that will be explained below. Pets that have not initiated the laboratory testing prior to arrival on Guam must begin the full 120 days of commercial quarantine. However, this period can be shortened if the FAVN testing and other requirements are completed during the commercial quarantine. It may be possible to release the animal into home quarantine for the remainder of the 120 days.
4. The other potentially significant difference regards the number of required rabies vaccinations. Animals participating in quarantines on Guam of less than 120 days will have had their rabies titers tested prior to arrival, and a minimum of TWO rabies vaccinations (lifetime) is required. The most recent rabies vaccination cannot be more than 365 days old, unless it is an approved 3-year vaccine. In that case the vaccine must have been administered not more than 36 months prior to arrival. Animals participating in the full 120 day commercial quarantine on Guam will not require laboratory testing and must show proof of at least TWO completed rabies vaccinations(lifetime) prior to release from quarantine, and the most recent one must still be current at the time of release. There are more details on vaccinations below.

QUARANTINE PROGRAMS

1. Full 120-Days Commercial Quarantine: If your pet is not arriving from an exempt country or area and if your pet fails to pass or complete the FAVN testing and other requirements, then your pet will have to complete 120-days of commercial quarantine on Guam. There are no other options or exceptions.
2. Calculated Quarantine: If your pet has completed all of the requirements and has a rabies FAVN titer of at least 0.5 I.U., then your pet will have to spend only as many days in commercial quarantine as required to reach 120 total days since the FAVN blood sample reached the laboratory.
3. Home Quarantine on Guam: If your pet is coming from the United States or an overseas United States military installation and has completed all other requirements and has a rabies FAVN titer of at least 1.0 I.U. then your pet may qualify for home quarantine until 120 total days has elapsed since the FAVN blood sample reached the laboratory.
4. Exempt From Quarantine: If your pet is coming from an “exempt” country such as Japan or Australia, and has been there for at least 120 days, then there is normally no commercial quarantine required on Guam. The entry requirements can be completed prior to arrival and the animal may be allowed to leave the airport with you. Your veterinarian can help you with the pre-arrival requirements as detailed below.
- 5.

REQUIREMENTS FOR CALCULATED & HOME QUARANTINE

1. **ELECTRONIC MICROCHIP** – All dogs and cats attempting to qualify for something other than the full 120-day commercial quarantine program are required to have an implanted electronic microchip. The microchip must be U. S. made and readable with an AVID universal scanner (i.e. AVID chip, Home Again chip).
 - o It is the owner’s responsibility to have the microchip implanted by a veterinarian and ensure that the microchip number is recorded on the serum sample before it is submitted for the rabies testing. The microchip number must be included on the results of the rabies antibody test.
2. **OIE-FLUORESCENT ANTIBODY VIRUS NEUTRALIZATION TEST (aka OIE-FAVN Test, Rabies Antibody Test).**
 1. A rabies blood test (requiring 1 to 3 ml of serum) to determine if dogs and cats have responded adequately to the rabies vaccination is required prior to arrival as the first step to qualifying for the 0-5 day quarantine program. **The testing laboratory must submit the test results directly to the Animal Quarantine Program at the Department of Agriculture, 163 Dairy Road; Mangilao, Guam 96913.**
 2. The OIE-FAVN test must be conducted no more than 12 months prior to arrival into Guam. A result of 0.5 I.U. of rabies antibodies or greater per milliliter of blood or is required (1.0 I.U. required for the Home Quarantine). **When updating rabies vaccinations prior to conducting the FAVN testing, you should wait at least 10 days before drawing the blood sample. This gives time for the pet to respond to the vaccine and build a titer high enough to pass the FAVN testing requirements. NOTE: DO NOT ADMINISTER FURTHER RABIES VACCINATIONS AFTER THE BLOOD IS DRAWN FOR THE FAVN TEST.**
 3. The day that the laboratory receives the OIE-FAVN sample counts as the first day for the 120-day countdown.

4. To be considered valid, the test results must include the number of the implanted microchip and a complete description of the animal (sex, breed, age, color or color pattern, any visible unique identifying characteristics, etc.)
5. If your pet passes the pre-arrival oie-favn test and provided that all other requirements are met at least 120 days prior to arrival, your pet will then be considered as having met the prequalification requirements for the calculated quarantine (home quarantine requires higher titer). no quarantine of less than 5 days can be guaranteed based on the availability of a veterinarian to perform the arrival quarantine examination.

Note: if documentation is incorrect or incomplete, arriving animals will be sent to a commercial quarantine facility while awaiting proper documentation. The costs for this holding period will be pay by the owner. If documentation is incomplete to meet the requirements a less than 120-day quarantine program, the full 120-day commercial quarantine program will go into effect.

POST-ARRIVAL REQUIREMENTS

1. Any dog or cat eligible for less than 120 days of quarantine shall be transported directly to a commercial quarantine facility where a post-arrival examination by the Territorial Veterinarian or a licensed veterinarian approved by the Director must be completed. This same examination must be completed for all dogs and cats arriving from EXEMPT AREAS too, but that examination shall be arranged and completed by the owner/agent within 72- hours of pet arrival, and any veterinarian licensed on Guam can complete this examination. No animal can be sold until this examination and any required treatments have been completed. Failure to comply can result in the full 120-day quarantine at the owner's expense.
2. The veterinarian responsible for the post-examination must submit a health examination certificate to the department verifying the health of the dog or the cat and provide his/her recommendations for the animal's early release or continued quarantine status as deemed necessary. The examination certificate along with the attending veterinarian's recommendation must be submitted to the Department of Agriculture prior to approval and release of any dog or cat. A certificate of completion must be obtained from the department prior to release.
3. The post-arrival examining veterinarian may require quarantine for observation for animals that show signs of illness or disease during the examination.

**** Animals eligible for Calculated or Home Quarantines that are held by the examining veterinarian during post-arrival examination due to any health anomalies must be cleared for release by the Territorial Veterinarian or a licensed veterinarian appointed by the Director.***

For more information please contact:

Department of Agriculture Animal Health Section

163 Dairy Road

Mangilao, Guam 96913

Telephone Number

(671) 734-3942/3 Fax: (671) 734-6569

e-mail: gu.agri@yahoo.com