



Importation of Horses & Equidae into New York State

No horse or other equid (donkeys, zebras, etc.) shall be imported into the State unless accompanied by a certificate of veterinary inspection which includes:

- The name and address of the owner or trainer of the animal or animals
- The date of examination, the number of animals examined, the establishment or premises at which the animals were examined
- The consignee or destination and address in New York
- A description sufficient to identify the individual equine, including name, age, breed, color, gender, distinctive markings, or unique and permanent forms of identification when present (e.g., microchips, brands, tattoos, scars, cowlicks, or blemishes). “NO MARKINGS” is not acceptable—every animal has distinguishing features—if necessary, draw whorls, chestnuts, scars.
- For all horses six months of age and older, a negative test report for Equine Infectious Anemia conducted within 12 months of importation which includes the date of the test and the name of the USDA approved testing laboratory which conducted the test
- The signature of an examining veterinarian accredited to do regulatory work on horses (USDA Category 2) by the state or country in which a physical examination of the animal was made. The certificate of veterinary inspection shall be valid for 30 days following the date of examination appearing on the certificate or in the case of an equine interstate passport i.e. GoPass®, for six months from the date of examination.

SPECIAL CONSIDERATIONS—

- Brands - Although it is NOT official Identification, freeze branding is allowed in NY for horses. The NYS Dept of Ag & Markets maintains a brand registry. If you wish to register a brand you can send your design to our office at the following address: NYS Dept. of Agriculture and Markets Division of Animal Industry 10B Airline Drive Albany, NY 12235. We will compare it to our registry and will register it if it is unique. Since it is not the diagnosis and treatment of disease, branding is not considered veterinary practice. You may need a veterinarian if tranquilization is necessary. Please note that although freeze brands are not considered official identification in horses, they are permanent identification and as such should be recorded on test charts and Certificates of Veterinary Inspection.
- In addition, additional endorsements may be necessary if the state of origin is currently undergoing a disease outbreak of (but not limited to) Equine Piroplasmiasis, Contagious Equine Metritis, EHV-1/EHM etc. The division's import export page http://www.agriculture.ny.gov/ai/import_export.html should be checked under the section called “Emergency Import Regulations” to see any additional emergency importation requirements.



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- Animals going to NYC for any reason need to contact the NYC Dept of Health, Office of Veterinary Public Health Services @ 646-364-1783.
- Animals coming to any county fair or the New York State Fair need to review the Fair Requirements. Please see section on “Fairs” for additional import requirements.
- In general, NY is not a permit based state, except for cervids and poultry (from areas where HPAI exists). New York prohibits the importation of any CWD susceptible cervids from outside the state with the limited exception of exotic cervids going from one AZA (Association of Zoos and Aquariums) accredited zoo to another AZA accredited zoo.
- There is no NYS law for Rabies vaccination for horses but it’s strongly recommended. Horses attending NYS fair and county fairs must be vaccinated for Rabies (county laws). Other additional exhibitions, shows, racetracks may also require Rabies vaccination. Call the event to verify. We do not honor or recognize “rabies titers.”
- Animals moving between Association of Zoos and Aquariums (AZA) accredited zoos may enter under Zoological Association CVI (Certificate of Veterinary Inspection) valid for 30 days from the date of issue.
- The Division of Animal Industry accepts GoPass® from any state in the US that issues GoPass®. For more information about the 6 month CVI, please visit [Global VetLINK](#). Additionally, NYS issues GoPasses for NY horses. Contact the Division of Animal Industry for more information about NY GoPasses 518-457-3502 or visit [Global VetLINK](#).