



Reference: USA dogs

Taking pet dogs to the United States of America

If your situation differs in any way from the proposed process, or if you have information from the veterinary authority of the importing country that differs from the process described below, please contact your local state veterinarian to discuss the matter.

Exporters are advised to verify the requirements of the importing country by contacting the veterinary authorities, or their representatives in South Africa, in advance of each consignment.

Requirements

- A health check within 5 days of travel (dogs).
- A valid rabies vaccination - for primary vaccinations, this must be done at least 30 days prior to arrival. Booster vaccinations have no waiting period. In the case where a dog received the primary vaccination (after 3 months of age) and it has since expired, they may receive a booster and then travel immediately without having to wait 30 days.
- Puppies must not be vaccinated against rabies before 3 months of age, so the youngest that a puppy can be imported into the United States is 4 months of age.
- A current, valid rabies vaccination certificate that includes the following information:
 - Name and address of owner.
 - Breed, sex, age, colour, markings, and other identifying information for the dog.
 - Date of rabies vaccination and vaccine product information.
 - Date the vaccination expires.
 - Name, license number, address, and signature of **veterinarian** who administered the vaccination.

Procedure

- Your dog should be taken to your local private veterinarian for a health check.
- Your veterinarian should complete a Veterinary Health Certificate (VHC) for the export of dogs from SA to the USA - Blank forms may be obtained from the State Veterinary (SV) office.
- The signed VHC as well as your dog's vaccination booklet and microchipping certificate (if applicable) should be brought to the SV office for certification. You should also have your driver's licence or ID book available.
- Certificate application cost can be found on the department's tariff list. Certificate is payable on appointment (Cost per application R173 each in 2019).

- Any other queries can be directed to the State Veterinarian on duty via the contact details below:

Office names, locations, contact details and availability for certification

Milnerton Veterinary export certification office

- Contact details: vetexport@elsenburg.com, tel: 021 808 5400, fax 021 808 5125
- Our new office operational since June 2015 is located at 22 Lobelia Street, Milnerton, alternatively the GPS co-ordinates are:
 - GPS Co-ordinates: 33.866870 S 18.503029 E
- At the Veterinary export certificate office in Milnerton clients are assisted from 08:30am to 12:00pm. Outside of these hours clients are assisted by appointment only.

Head office of the Department of Agriculture at Elsenburg / Boland state vet office

- Responsible for the greater Cape Town area, Paarl, Wellington, Franschhoek, Stellenbosch, Somerset West and Gordon's Bay.
- **Contact details:** Dr Gary Buhrmann. Email: vivienm@elsenburg.com / garyb@elsenburg.com / svboland@elsenburg.com Telephone: 021 808 5026 / 021 808 5027, Fax: 021 808 5125
- Our offices are located at the Head office of the Department of Agriculture at Elsenburg. When searching on Google maps, use 'Provincial Department of Agriculture'
- GPS Co-ordinates Elsenburg Head Office: 33.845259 S 18.834722 E
- Clients are assisted by appointment only on Monday, Wednesday and Friday mornings from 08:30am to 12:00pm

Malmesbury State vet office

- Responsible for the magisterial districts of Malmesbury, Moorreesburg, Hopefield, Vredenburg, Piketberg, Tulbagh and Ceres
- **Contact details :** Dr Davey Sewellyn. Email: sewellynd@elsenburg.com / samanthab@elsenburg.com Telephone: 022 433 8915 / 022 433 8910
- Our offices are located at on the corner of Spoorweg and Municipal Streets, Malmesbury.
- GPS coordinates 33.465701 S, 18.721446 E
- Clients are assisted by appointments only – please make an appointment timeously by contacting Samantha Burger as the State Vet Dr Sewellyn Davey is not always available.

Vredendal State vet office

- Responsible for the magisterial districts of Vredendal, Clanwilliam and Van Rhynsdorp.
- **Contact details :** Dr Roelof Hugo. Email: roelofh@elsenburg.com / deidred@elsenburg.com Telephone: 027-213 3106 ; Fax 027-213 3109
- Our offices are located at on the corner of Matzikama Street and North Road, Vredendal.
- GPS coordinates 31.662625 S, 18.507298 E

- Clients are assisted by appointments only – please make an appointment timeously by contacting Deidre Daniels as the State Vet is not always available.

George State vet office

- Responsible for the magisterial districts of George, Riversdal, Mossel Bay and Knysna.
- **Contact details** : Dr Edwin Dyason. edwind@elsenburg.com / santal@elsenburg.com
Telephone: 044 803 3774 / 044 803 3771; Fax 044 873 3342 / 044 873 3342
- Our offices are located at 4 Varing Avenue George.
- GPS coordinates 33.57.31 S, 22.27.16 E
- Clients are assisted by appointments only – please make an appointment timeously by contacting the Santa Lessing as the State Vet is not always available

Beaufort West State vet office

- Responsible for Beaufort West, Prince Albert, Laingsburg and Murraysburg
- **Contact details** : Dr Jaco Pienaar. Email: jacop@elsenburg.com
- Telephone: 023 414 2154; Fax 023 414 3980
- Our offices are located in Blyth Street, Beaufort West.
- GPS coordinates 32.375009 S, 22.589063 E
- Clients are assisted on Tuesday and Friday only from 10h00 -12h00

Swellendam State vet office

- Responsible for the magisterial districts of Swellendam, Montagu, Worcester, Robertson, Bredasdorp and Caledon.
- **Contact details** : Dr Llewellyn Hon. Email: bidwellg@elsenburg.com / llewellynh@elsenburg.com
Telephone: 028 425 4850 / 028 425 4851 Cell 086 624 7956
- Our offices are located in the main road, 67 Voortrek Street, direct at the back of ABSA bank.
- GPS coordinates 34.02126 S 20.44140 E
- Clients are assisted by appointments only – please make an appointment timeously by contacting Bidwell Gelwana as the State Vet is not always available.

Worcester State vet office

- Responsible for the magisterial districts of Worcester, Ceres and Tulbagh.
- **Contact details**: Dr Christi Kloppers. Email: christik@elsenburg.com / bulelwad@elsenburg.com
Telephone: 021 808 5059/ 021 808 5062
- Our offices are located at 30 Van Arckel street, Worcester.
- GPS coordinates 33.623641 S, 19.457008 E
- Clients are assisted by appointments only – please make an appointment timeously by contacting Bulelwa Dinaana, as the State Vet is not always available.

Oudtshoorn State vet office

- Responsible for the magisterial districts of Oudtshoorn, Ladismith, Van Wyksdorp, Calitzdorp, De Rust and Uniondale.

- **Contact details:** Dr Cathy Fox. Email: cathyf@elsenburg.com / albies@elsenburg.com
Telephone: 044 203 9440 / 044 203 9445 Fax: 044 279 1910 / 044 203 1910
- For forms and procedures relating to ostriches, please contact the [South African Ostrich Business Chamber \(SAOBC\)](#)
- Our offices are located at 39 Van Der Riet Street, OUDTSHOORN, 6620
- Clients are assisted by appointments only – please make an appointment timeously by contacting Albie Storm, as the State Vet is not always available.