

# Guidelines for importing and exporting biological samples

DATA for LIFE®

Importing and exporting biological materials to and from the United States requires government oversight to prevent the transportation of exotic diseases and the supplying of illegal markets. Import and export permits and licenses must be obtained from the following government agencies according to these guidelines.

**Read on to ensure you are taking the right steps for your project.**



	US Fish & Wildlife Service	US Fish & Wildlife Service	US Department of Agriculture	Department of Health and Human Services
	Office of the Interior	Division of Management Authority	Animal & Plant Health Inspection Service	Centers for Disease Control & Prevention
	Office of Law Enforcement	(Convention on International Trade in Endangered Species of Wild Fauna and Flora)	Veterinary Services	Import Permit Program
<b>IMPORTING</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Animal materials</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Threatened animal materials (see Appendix I, II, III for a list of species)</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Livestock or poultry animal materials (including those bred for laboratory use)</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Known to be infectious human materials</li> <li>Known to be infectious animal materials</li> <li>Non-human primate materials</li> <li>Bat materials</li> </ul>
<b>EXCLUDES</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Livestock or poultry animal materials</li> <li>Human materials</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Non-threatened animal materials</li> <li>Human materials</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Known to be infectious livestock or poultry animal materials</li> <li>Animal materials not derived from livestock or poultry</li> <li>Human materials</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Known to be infectious human materials</li> <li>Known to be infectious animal materials (except non-human primate and bat)</li> </ul>
<b>APPLY AT</b>	USFW eLicense website	USFW ePermit website	APHIS website	CDC website
<b>FREQUENCY</b>	Annual, per site, per species	Per shipment(s), per species	Per shipment(s), per species	Per species
<b>FORM</b>	General	3-200-37e (Appendix I) None (Appendix II, III)	VS16-3 VS16-6A	General
<b>APPROVAL</b>	1–2 weeks	1–2 weeks	4–6 weeks	4–6 weeks
<b>ACTION</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Maintain license on site</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Maintain permit on site</li> <li>Provide exporter with copy of permit</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Maintain permit on site</li> <li>Provide exporter with copy of permit</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Maintain permit on site</li> <li>Provide exporter with copy of permit</li> </ul>
<b>IN LIEU</b>	None	None	None	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>If materials do not require CDC permit, exporter includes with shipment a letter stating material is not known to be infectious</li> </ul>



	None	US Fish & Wildlife Service	US Department of Commerce
		Division of Management Authority	Bureau of Industry and Security
		(Convention on International Trade in Endangered Species of Wild Fauna and Flora)	
<b>EXPORTING</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Human materials</li> <li>Animal materials</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Threatened animal materials (see Appendix I, II, III for a list of species)</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Known to be infectious human materials</li> <li>Known to be infectious animal materials</li> </ul>
<b>EXCLUDES</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Threatened animal materials</li> <li>Known to be infectious human materials</li> <li>Known to be infectious animal materials</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Non-threatened animal materials</li> <li>Human materials</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Known to be infectious human materials</li> <li>Known to be infectious animal materials</li> </ul>
<b>APPLY AT</b>	None	USFW ePermit website	BIS website
<b>FREQUENCY</b>	None	Per shipment(s), per species	Per shipment(s), per species, per nation
<b>FORM</b>	None	3-200-37e (Appendix I) 3-200-29 (Appendix II, III)	General
<b>APPROVAL</b>	None	1–2 weeks	4–6 weeks
<b>ACTION</b>	None	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Maintain permit on site</li> <li>Include copy of permit with shipment</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Maintain license on site</li> <li>Include copy of license with shipment</li> </ul>
<b>IN LIEU</b>	None	None	None

**Contact us now to learn more about importing and exporting your biological samples.**