

Notification System for the Importation of Animals



When you are bringing an animal into Japan, you must submit notification under the Act on Prevention of Infections and Medical Care for Patients Suffering Infection Diseases. If the notification, including a Veterinary Health Certificate issued by the government authority of an exporting country, does not comply with regulations, the animal must be **reshipped** or **culled**. Costs are also borne by the person bringing in the animal.

Main pets that require notification



Mammals

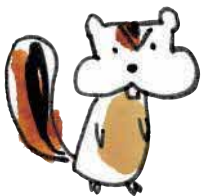
- Ferrets
- Hedgehogs
- Sugar gliders
- Hamsters, etc.



Birds

- Parrots
- Parakeets
- Pigeons
- Java Sparrows, etc.

- * Dogs, cats and poultry are not subject to this notification system. However, notification to and quarantine at Ministry of Agriculture Forestry and Fisheries Animal Quarantine Stations is required.
- * Birds cannot be imported from countries or regions where there is an outbreak of avian influenza.
- * Fish, amphibians, reptiles, and insects are not applicable.
- * Other laws, such as CITES and Invasive Alien Species Act, may be applied.



Strict regulations on importation of "rodents", such as Hamsters and Squirrels into Japan.

Hamsters, guinea pigs, squirrels, and chinchillas are classified as "rodents". The requirement for importing "rodents" are strict because it is known to spread many infectious diseases seriously harmful to humans. The rodents raised at home or purchased at pet shop are not allowed for importation into Japan. Notification is also required for importing rodent carcasses. **Rodents are often consumed as meat** in some countries—guinea pigs carcasses called "cuy" are used in South American cuisine—but these are also subject to notification, and in principle they cannot be brought into Japan.



When bringing animals into Japan from overseas, different species are subject to different regulations

Cows, pigs, sheep, goats, deer, horses, chickens, quails, green pheasants, geese, guinea fowls, turkeys, ducks, waterfowls, rabbits, dogs, cats, raccoons, foxes, skunks



Inspected at Animal Quarantine Stations of the Ministry of Agriculture, Forestry and Fisheries

Living land mammals and birds other than those listed above, and carcasses of Rodentia, Lagomorpha and Ochotonidae orders



Submit notification to Quarantine Stations of the Ministry of Health, Labor and Welfare

Ferret-badgers, bats, monkeys, raccoon dogs, masked palm civets, prairie dogs, and soft-furred rats



Banned from imports



Contact Us

Narita Airport Quarantine Station
(Office of Import Animal Administration)
Tel. +81-476-32-6708 Fax. +81-476-32-6725

Tokyo Airport Quarantine Branch, Tokyo Quarantine Station
(Quarantine and Sanitary Division)
Tel. +81-3-6847-9312 Fax. +81-3-6847-9315

Chubu Airport Quarantine Branch, Nagoya Quarantine Station
(Quarantine and Sanitary Division)
Tel. +81-569-38-8192 Fax. +81-569-38-8194

Kansai Airport Quarantine Station
(Office of Import Animal Administration)
Tel. +81-72-455-1298 Fax. +81-72-455-1299
Fukuoka Airport Quarantine Branch, Fukuoka Quarantine Station
(Quarantine and Sanitary Division)
Tel. +81-92-477-0207 Fax. +81-92-477-0209



For more details on the notification system for importing animals:

Visit the following website

Notification System for the Importation of Animals

Search



Many zoonotic diseases are reported in the world every year. Please refrain from bringing wild animals into Japan.

Bringing animals into Japan

You can't bring animals without notification.

- Ferrets
- Hedgehogs
- Sugar gliders
- Hamsters, etc.

Main types of pets requiring notification

- Parrots
- Parakeets
- Pigeons
- Java Sparrows, etc.



MHLW Ministry of Health, Labour and Welfare of Japan
Quarantine Station



Before taking animals overseas
Before bringing animals back from overseas

Please contact Quarantine Station

Procedures for Bringing
Your Animals
with you to Japan



First, call a
Quarantine
Station



Fax or E-mail
to Quarantine
Station



Submit your
documents to
Quarantine
Station

Quarantine Service counter
for importation of animals



Step 1 Preparing documents

Required documents

- Notification Form (2 copies)
- Veterinary Health Certificate
(issued by the government authority of
an exporting country)
- Identification document of the importer
(Official documentation such as passport,
Residence Card, Special Permanent Resident Certificate,
or Driver's License that includes name and address)



Notification Form (2 copies)

Veterinary Health Certificate

1 Consult a Quarantine Station

Please provide information such as the animal species, the country the animal is kept, and the expected arrival date in Japan.

2 Obtain and fill in the Notification Form (2 copies)

The Notification Form (template) is available on the website.

3 Obtain Veterinary Health Certificate issued by the government authority of the exporting country

Each species of animal has to obtain respective the Veterinary Health Certificate. The procedures for getting it differ according to the exporting country. Please contact the relevant government authority of the exporting country.

Animals without a Veterinary Health Certificate issued by the government authority of the exporting country are not allowed to be imported to Japan.

Step 2 Prior confirmation

Animals cannot be imported to Japan if any of the submitted document is incomplete after arriving in Japan.

To avoid this, have the Quarantine Station (at the airport/seaport animals will be arriving at) review your prepared documents **in advance**.

Step 3 Submit documents

Upon arrival in Japan, please submit the required documents to the Quarantine Station. If the documents are verified to meet the requirements, a certificate of acceptance will be issued and you may proceed to Customs.

Notification
complete



Key Points for Certification



- **Mammals, such as Ferrets**
 - No symptoms of rabies at the time of shipment.
 - The animal must have been kept for a certain period of time or quarantined since birth in a rabies-free region or facility (period of time varies depending on endemic/non-endemic country, and type of storage/quarantine facility).
- **Rodents, such as Hamsters**
 - No symptoms of rabies at the time of shipment.
 - The animal must have been kept since birth in a storage facility free of seven types of infectious diseases such as plague.
 - The storage facility must be certified by the government authority of the exporting country.
- **Birds, such as Parakeets**
 - No symptoms of West Nile fever or HPAI/LPAI at the time of shipment.
 - The animal must have been kept or quarantined for 21 days or since birth in a mosquito-free storage and quarantine facility in a country (or region) without outbreaks of HPAI/LPAI.