



Beef Cattle Entry Requirements

Entry Documentation

([3 CCR §831.4](#); [FAC 10610](#))

California requires an **Interstate Livestock Entry Permit** for **all** cattle (including steers and slaughter cattle). To obtain an Interstate Livestock Entry Permit, please call the California Department of Food and Agriculture (CDFA) **Animal Health Branch (AHB) permit line at (916) 900-5052**. Permits are valid for 15 days after being issued.

California requires a **Certificate of Veterinary Inspection (CVI)** for cattle within 30 days before movement into the state.

Exemptions:

- *Cattle moving directly to slaughter, with a brand document, owner-shipper statement, or saleyard release.*
- *Beef breeding herds with a Pasture to Pasture permit.*

Official Identification (ID)

([3 CCR §831.3](#), [§831.4](#); [FAC 10610](#))

The following beef cattle require individual official ID:

- *Sexually intact beef females 6 months and over*
- *Sexually intact beef males 18 months and over*
- *Any cattle used for show, exhibition, rodeo, or recreation*

Official ID must be listed on the CVI, except:

- *Cattle moving from an Approved Livestock Market directly to a recognized slaughtering establishment.*
- *Sexually intact beef breed cattle under 18 months.*
- *Steers or spayed heifers.*
- *Cattle from OR, NV, or WA if accompanied by a brand inspection certificate with registered brand.*

Note:

- If official ID is not required, the **CVI** must state the exemption.
- If official ID is required, but listing it is not, the **CVI** must state "all animals are officially identified".
- Brand inspection requirements remain in effect.

See CDFA's Fact Sheet "[Cattle - Official Identification Options](#)" for detailed information on options for official ID for cattle.

If you are transporting livestock into California with an electronic CVI, please print and present a hard copy to the Inspector at the Border Protection Station.

Animal Health Branch Permit Line:
(916) 900-5052

Animal Health and Food Safety Services Animal Health Branch

Headquarters - (916) 900-5002
Redding District - (530) 225-2140
Modesto District - (209) 491-9350
Tulare District - (559) 685-3500
Ontario District - (909) 947-4462

For California entry requirements of other livestock and animals, please visit the following:

[Information About Livestock and Pet Movement](#) or [Animal Health Entry Requirement Interactive Website](#)

For more information on the Animal Health Branch, please visit:
www.cdfa.ca.gov/ah





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Brucellosis

(3 CCR §753.1; FAC 10326, 10327)

California requires official brucellosis calfhood vaccination and a legible brucellosis tattoo for all female breeding beef cattle **12 months of age and over** before movement into the state:

- Non-vaccinated beef heifers 6 - 12 months of age require a **Special Entry Permit** to: be vaccinated or spayed after arrival, or move to a registered feedlot or slaughter pen.
- Non-vaccinated female cattle over 12 months of age can only enter for slaughter or on a **Special Entry Permit** to: be spayed after arrival, or move to a registered feedlot (if under 18 months), or move to a slaughter pen/terminal feedlot.

Sexually intact cattle of any age moving from a **Designated Brucellosis Surveillance Area** require a **Special Entry Permit** and a negative brucellosis blood test obtained within 30 days before movement into the state.



Tuberculosis (TB)

(3 CCR §758; FAC 9932)

California requires a negative TB test for beef breeding cattle **6 months of age and over** within 60 days before movement, *if* originating from states/zones not classified as "TB Free."

Trichomonosis

(3 CCR §820.3; FAC 10610)

California requires a negative individual PCR trichomonosis test on bulls 18 months of age and over on non-virgin bulls less than 18 months of age.

Samples must be taken at least 10 days after last contact with sexually mature cows, and within 60 days before movement into the state.

California requires the **CVI** to include the test date, test type, test result, and statement, **"Trichomonosis has not been diagnosed in the herd of origin within the past 24 months."**

Note: Test results from pooled samples are not acceptable.

Exemptions:

- *Bulls moving to a certified semen collection facility.*
- *Bulls used solely for exhibition, confined to an exhibition location without access to mature female cattle.*
- *Bulls moving directly to a recognized slaughtering facility, or to a feedlot for feeding (no grazing or exposure to female cattle) and then to slaughter.*

