



# Dairy Cattle Entry Requirements

## Entry Documentation

Pursuant to [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 if a brand certificate, owner-shipper statement, or saleyard release accompanies the shipment.

## Official Identification (ID)

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

**All dairy cattle require individual official ID.**

**Official ID must be listed on the CVI, except:**

- Cattle moving from an Approved Livestock Market directly to a recognized slaughtering establishment.
- Steers or spayed heifers.

### Note:

- If official ID is required, but listing it is not, the **CVI** must state "all animals are officially identified".

Acceptable methods or devices for official ID for cattle include:

- Official brucellosis vaccination ("bangs") tags
- USDA metal "silver brite" tags
- Animal Identification Number (AIN) tags: All cattle born after 3/11/15 must have tags that start with 840.
- USDA approved back-tags (slaughter cattle only)
- Registration tattoos (OR, NV, and WA only)

**Note:** Brand inspection requirements remain in effect.

## Brucellosis

Pursuant to [3 CCR §753.1](#); [FAC 10326](#), [10327](#)

California requires official brucellosis calthood vaccination and a legible brucellosis tattoo for all female breeding dairy cattle **4 months of age and over** before movement into the state. Non-vaccinated female cattle may enter on a **Special Entry Permit**.

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

## Trichomonosis

Pursuant to [3 CCR §820.3](#); [FAC 10610](#)

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

## Tuberculosis (TB)

Pursuant to [3 CCR §758](#); [FAC 9932](#)

California requires a negative TB test for dairy breeding cattle **6 months of age and over**, obtained within 60 days before movement into the state.

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. This will prevent future follow up by CDFA personnel to verify the authenticity and accuracy of the document.

**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](http://www.cdfa.ca.gov/ah)

